

# EATON BISHOP PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Eaton Bishop Parish Council held at Eaton Bishop Village Hall on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2020 from 7.30 pm

### **Present:**

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

### **In attendance:**

Present were Parish Clerk Alison Wright, Lengthsman Paul Wright and one member of the public.

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

### **Open Session – public questions:**

A member of the public asked what was happening with regard to the Smart Water property marking kits. These had been ordered and would be rolled out as soon as possible at various events. This was to begin at the Parish Event on 4<sup>th</sup> April but this may be postponed. There was a question as to whether the Herefordshire Council had circulated any advice regarding the Corona Virus (COVID -19). The meeting was advised that correspondence had been circulated and this was mainly focused on effective hand washing and hygiene practices.

### **1.0 Apologies for Absence and co-option of councillor**

There were apologies received from Cllr Matthew Johnson, Cllr David Richards, Cllr Beth Cross and Ward Cllr David Hitchiner.

There was one candidate put forward for co-option. Mr Rupert Chatwin introduced himself and gave a resume of his work experience, life and interests. He then explained why he would like to join the parish council. The councillors were happy that he should be co-opted and he was proposed by Cllr Tydeman and seconded by Cllr Ball. Cllr Rupert Chatwin then signed his Acceptance of Office Form and Registrable Interests Form. A warm welcome was extended to Rupert.

### **2.0 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations made.

### **3.0 Minutes of previous meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting, held on the 12<sup>th</sup> February 2020 were signed as a 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** had sent his apologies and a report which had been circulated. The update contained details of a meeting held on location at Ruckhall Lane concerning parking in the road near to the Abbey. The Ward Cllr had spoken to the NHS representative and had written to the Bursar at Belmont Abbey. The Ward Cllr had been advised that numbers working at the location, and requiring parking spaces, were supposed to be reducing. The problem of on-road parking would be followed up if seen to be persisting.

The **PCSO West Mercia Police** Bulletins sent.

The **Locality Steward** was not present. Bulletins had been circulated. An assessment had been made by the Locality Steward regarding the water lying on the road at the end of Honeymoon Common. It was agreed that action would be taken to clear the ditches on Honeymoon as they were thought to be not clear enough. The Parish Council authorised the hiring of a day with a mini-digger to address the Parish Council side of the drainage but it was noted that if this did not solve the issue then it would be back to Balfour Beatty to look at further gully issues.

The **Tree Warden** Cllr Richards had sent his apologies. There was no update on actual tree issues. There would be a memorial planting of a tree (in memory of a deceased parishioner) and the Parish Council would be consulted about this. Cllr Richards would speak to the Parish Council.

Update regarding **Footpaths** – details of any issues to be sent through the parish council. There were some trees down in Ruckhall and tidying these was under control.

## **5.0 Finance and Policies**

5.1) To note bank balances

The bank balances were noted as: Business Account £23657.95\* and Treasurer's Account £2688.35, 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.

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 (Lengthsman bins)	£205.00
M R Cobb (Lengthsman)	£120.00
John Smith Charity	£140.00

## **6.0 Update on defibrillator and to include fundraising ideas**

Cllr Tydeman had been checking the defibrillator each week. No further update regarding the listing.

## **7.0 Update on parish flooding issues**

The Pear Tree Cottage flooding issues – the ditches had been dug out and the flooding was dispersed – at present. The issue advised regarding the farm run off in the Lower Eaton area had been channelled through the tenant who would be approaching the land owner. There had not been an update, at the time of the meeting, but it was commented that the field run off required channelling towards the available drainage pipe. A digger may be required in the field to facilitate this.

## **8.0 Village Matters**

**Honeymoore Common and Little Marsh Common** – updates  
Work Party had been held and both commons were looking okay.

**Village Hall** matters – no further items were raised.

**Notice Boards and publication of Minutes etc.**

No site for the erection of a notice board for the Lane Head area had been forthcoming. Cllr Wall would ask the Locality Steward about the area of grass opposite the Lane Head turning? The suggestion of a fourth board was put to the vote following a proposal from Cllr Ball and there was a unanimous “no” vote.

**Parish Afternoon Tea on 4<sup>th</sup> April from 2.30 pm**

Due to the developing virus situation it was proposed that the event be held in abeyance while seeking clarity regarding the situation. This action was proposed by Cllr Wall, seconded by Cllr Ball and carried unanimously. The event would be postponed as a precaution for the moment.

**Verge markers on Ruckhall Common**

The verge markers had come about as a response to a concern for the common land, and a stop cock sited there, during any forthcoming construction works in the vicinity of the common. It had been decided by the Parish Council to place verge markers at such time as when construction was due to commence. A resident had purchased and installed some markers on the common which unfortunately were not health and safety regulation compliant. The person in question had been advised of this and the Parish Council had purchased and installed the correct verge markers. Another resident had subsequently raised a visibility concern regarding the markers. The Parish Council had undertaken an assessment of the visibility at the location and had determined that they were not in fact obstructing visibility when pulling out of the junction.

**9.0 Planning Matters**

No new applications had been received for discussion. The Banbh Farm agricultural building application had been turned down by the Planning Committee earlier that day.

**10.0 Smart Water – to discuss roll out initiatives**

Due to postponement of the Parish Event this would be organised for when the event takes place.

**11.0 Parish Roads and Footpaths**

11.1) To note any defects to be reported to Balfour Beatty.  
Sweeper for Ruckhall across the bridge to safeguard the bridge  
Follow up regarding the Vallets and ditch issues leading to water lying on the highway  
Drain and soakaway by the Eaton Bishop Church – blocked and in need of jetting  
Potholes by the telephone box at Ruckhall and by Camp Villa

11.2) To put forward work for the Lengthsman:  
Grip in verge opposite Yew Tree Farm gateway – also Dragon’s Dene ditch (digger required when jobs sufficient to justify hire)

**12.0 Information Sheet and Correspondence**

12.1) To note Information and Correspondence sheet including:

**Herefordshire Council** Various, as circulated and including:

- Review of the Hereford transport strategy
- Recovery under way in parts of Herefordshire as response continues
- OFFER TO BUSINESSES IMPACTED BY FLOODING
- Support to dispose of water damaged items
- River Lugg internal Drainage Board : properties flooded – Haywood

- County Plan

**HALC**

HALC Information Corner including **Community Resilience Plan**

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

All the usual items would be on the Agenda.

**14.0 Confirmation of the date of the next Meeting**

The next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting will be held on **Friday 17<sup>th</sup>** April 2020, from 7.30pm, in the Eaton Bishop Village Hall.

*The meeting closed at 8.45 pm*

Signed:

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Chairman

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Date

Visit the Eaton Bishop Parish Website at: [www.eatonbishoppcc.btck.co.uk](http://www.eatonbishoppcc.btck.co.uk)