

**Minutes of the Meeting of Ewyas Harold Group Parish Council held on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> August 2015 at Dulas Court, Dulas at 6.30pm**

**Present:** Cllr P Jinman – Chairman, Cllr S Eynon, Cllr R Weaver, Cllr R Baker, Cllr S Probert, Cllr L Overstall (Dulas), Cllr R Evans (Dulas) and Cllr S Clayton (Rowlestone).

**In attendance:** Cllr G Powell, Clerk and two members of the public.

**Absent:** Cllr M Price.

**1 To accept Apologies for Absence**

Cllr C Pogson, Cllr J Wilson-Thomas, Cllr J Hayes, Cllr M Watkins and the Local Policing Team.

**2 To receive Declarations of Interest & Dispensation Applications**

None.

**3 To consider Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2015, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**4 Open Forum**

4.1 No report received from the Local Policing Team.

4.2 Cllr Powell gave a report including information on the Council Tax Consultation 2016/17, Drainage in Ewyas Harold, the Mobile Infrastructure Project, Waste Collection & Recycling, Hereford Civic Society and the A465 Llangua to Pontrilas Sawmills. It was requested that any events of flooding of the public sewerage system should be reported by residents immediately to Welsh Water on 0800 085 3968.

4.3 Comments from local residents: The poor condition of the School Lane junction was raised. The clerk and Cllr Powell had requested this be dealt with during the school holidays but the locality steward had stated that this was unlikely but would inspect. The surface posed a hazard and it would be requested that the potholes be dealt with as a priority and that this area be scheduled for resurfacing in Balfour Beatty's plan for next year. Comments were received on the improvement to the verges in Priorsfield due to the lengthsman attending to them. Bollard and barrier locks and keys at the recreation ground were raised. The clerk was currently looking at this.

**5 Clerk Update and to note Correspondence List**

The clerk's update and correspondence list was noted. Information on a Community Governance Review would be considered at the September meeting.

**6 To consider issue of congestion in School Lane and Voluntary One-Way System Proposal**

The questionnaire regarding a voluntary one-way system proposal had been circulated and was discussed.

**Resolved** that a meeting with the school be arranged so that options could be discussed together.

**7 To consider provision of Centre Refuge on the A465 and traffic calming options for the village**

Kentchurch Parish Council had offered a contribution of £1000, which was noted as significantly less than their previous offer. This would leave a remaining cost of £2557 exc. VAT for EHGPC to fund for the refuge with solar bollards. There was much discussion on the pros and cons of provision of a refuge.

**Resolved** to defer a decision until clarification of ownership and liability for repairs and insurance had been received.

**Resolved** for the clerk to contact Kentchurch Parish Council to request a contribution of the original amount, should it be decided to provide the refuge.

**8 Lengthsman Scheme (incorporating the P3 scheme)**

8.1 A worksheet and invoice for £426.00 were considered. Mr Griffiths had provided a report detailing work required with accompanying costings. Work required on the B road, now not covered by the scheme, would be passed to the locality steward.

**Action**

**Clerk**

**Clerk**

**Clerk**

**GP**

**Clerk**

<p><b>Resolved</b> for the invoice of £426.00 to be paid and quotations for work detailed in the report to be accepted and the works undertaken.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>8.2 Quotes had been obtained for footpath notice boards and were discussed.</p>	<p>SP</p>
<p><b>Resolved</b> for Cllr Probert to speak to Andrew Buchanan before further consideration.</p>	<p>SP</p>
<p>9 <b>Planning</b></p>	<p></p>
<p>9.1 Planning application 152022, Land at Pwll-yr-Hunt, Pudding Street, Pontrilas – Proposed construction of agricultural building for use as a tractor shed (Retrospective) was considered. <b>Resolved</b> to comment that the parish council was aware of an application for a Certificate of Lawfulness relating to this application and it was requested that this application be held open until that application had been resolved.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>9.2 Planning application 151992, Land North of Dulas Court, adjacent Witney Wood, Dulas – Proposed erection of timber pole barn for agricultural equipment and storage and storage of hay for stock (Retrospective) was considered. The site had been viewed from an adjacent PROW by some members. <b>Resolved</b> to comment that consideration was given to the retrospective planning application. At the outset it was made clear that the consideration was as to the planning application and not to any other matters that related to rights of way, access or ownership as these were matters to be considered by the relevant Herefordshire Council Officers. The building is a telegraph pole frame, Yorkshire board style clad building which at the time of visiting contained two major items, a boat and a tractor. The building was not entered but considered from the outside and looked into through the gaps in the timber. It has a concrete floor. There was a track to its left side that skirted the building and then continued past a pond and up into the grass area behind. To its right there was a lean-to/roofed over building that spanned the garden wall of the old Dulas Court kitchen garden to the building the subject of the retrospective application. The building subject of the application was consistent with many such agricultural buildings that are used for housing farm machinery and equipment. As a building it is not unsightly. Councillors, having been made aware by letter to the Clerk and Council, of other matters relating to the sighting of the building were of the opinion that those legal matters needed to be resolved and therefore remained neutral as to the current application, at this time, but were concerned that proper planning procedures seem to have been ignored.</p> <p>9.3 Planning application 152124, The Gables, Ewyas Harold – Proposed two car garage extension was considered.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p><b>Resolved</b> that there were no objections to this application.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>10 <b>Finance</b></p>	<p></p>
<p>10.1 <b>Resolved</b> that the finance report be approved. Balances held at 24<sup>th</sup> July 2015 were £50,009.35 current account and £18,050.53 savings account, which included grant money for payment towards the Pavilion project.</p>	<p></p>
<p>10.2 A report from the Finance Working Group had been circulated with preliminary budget and precept workings. A further meeting to continue work on the precept and budget would be held in September and consideration of a Remembrance Wreath and donation would be put on the September agenda.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>10.3 Overtime worked by the clerk during the previous month was 33 hours, which included 2 hours of lengthsman scheme administration.</p>	<p></p>
<p><b>Resolved</b> to pay the clerk 33 hours of overtime.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>10.4 Membership of Community First was considered.</p>	<p></p>
<p><b>Resolved</b> not to take up membership.</p>	<p></p>
<p>10.5 A request for a grant from the Citizens Advice Bureaux was considered.</p>	<p></p>
<p><b>Resolved</b> that a grant of £50.00 for 2015/16, moved from general reserves, be paid and a grant of £60.00 for 2016/17 be budgeted for.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>10.6 The clerk had spoken to the business rates department who had advised that until development of The Kemble Centre takes place, it would not have a rateable value due to being a church. The Pavilion would be visited to be assessed and this would determine any necessary action. Therefore, this would be considered further, after The Pavilion had been assessed.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>10.7 <b>Resolved</b> payments for approval: Clerk's salary for July 2015 as per contract of employment</p>	<p>Clerk</p>

Pension £51.08 EE, £219.19 ER, PAYE £71.40 NI £25.53 EE, £20.73 ER  
 Postage £20.16 Stationery/Office Expenses £16.49 Mileage £48.60 Total £85.25  
 C Boyles (Reimburse 50% of Dropbox Pro and key cutting) £62.10  
 Total Gas & Power (Electricity standing charge 23/5/15-22/6/15) £9.52  
 Diane Malley (Payroll services 2015/16 first half) £29.00  
 Eon (Pavilion electricity 28/5/15-15/7/15) £76.00  
 Herefordshire Council (Trade waste collection, extra payment due to increase to weekly, by DD) £62.55  
 Herefordshire Council (Annual playground inspection report) £60.72  
 Highground Maintenance Ltd (Recreation ground grass cutting) £186.49  
 CT Groundcare (Rec bin emptying and KC grass cutting for June and July) £235.00

**11 Kemble Centre**

11.1 Cllr Weaver had confirmed he had carried out the weekly inspections and no action was required.

11.2 The report from Cllr Wilson-Thomas had been circulated and was noted.

11.3 Insurance details and the risk assessment was awaited for the hArt event and they had been informed that there was no electricity at the site. They had requested permission to paint on the internal walls and affix nails.

**Resolved** that the parish council give permission to paint and affix nails internally.

11.4 Fencing along the river was discussed. Use of the metal to create posts to which wood would be affixed to create ranch style fencing was proposed and positioning was discussed. The Environment Agency required an application for permission for anything within 8 metres of the brook, for which there would be no charge to the parish council.

**Resolved** not to submit an application to the Environment Agency at this time. Fencing of the style proposed would be erected only along the rear of the car parking area at present.

11.5 The clerk had been informed by the planning department that a pre-planning application needed to be submitted in order to get pre-planning advice.

**Resolved** that it was approved to make a pre-planning application based on demolishing the existing building and rebuilding a multi-room, multi-use building, in keeping with its surroundings.

**PJ/SC**

**Clerk**

**A resolution was passed that Standing Orders be suspended to allow completion of the agenda**

**12 Recreation Ground**

12.1 The weekly inspection reports had not been received from Cllr Pogson. Cllr Probert would carry out the checks for this month.

12.2 **Resolved** that the bins continue to be emptied weekly by CT Groundcare for the time being and this would be monitored during the weekly inspections.

12.3 The recreation ground working group report had been circulated and a proposal for the football club to apply for a grant to extend the path was discussed.

**Resolved** that the parish council supported a grant application for the footpath extension.

12.4 The current electricity supplier wanted to install a smart meter at the pavilion. In principle there were no objections to this and the clerk would investigate.

12.5 The playground inspection report had been circulated.

**Resolved** that no action was required at present as all risks were identified as low or very low. The equipment would continue to be monitored during inspections.

12.6 The mains water connection for the Pavilion should occur shortly. The clerk was currently obtaining the accessories required within the budget allowed. Plans for an opening event were currently awaiting available dates from Jesse Norman.

**SP**

**Clerk**

**Clerk/MW**

**13 To consider undertaking Fire Risk Assessment for Parish Council Premises**

Cllr Baker had provided information relating to regulations requiring this and kindly volunteered to undertake this as he is classed as competent by the legislation due to his training, qualifications and experience.

**Resolved** to accept Cllr Baker's offer to complete a Fire Risk Assessment for the Pavilion.

**RB**

**14 To consider acceptance of grant offer from Groundwork UK for NDP flood risk assessment work**

**Resolved** to accept the grant for this purpose.

**Clerk**

15 **To review participation in the Local Council Award Scheme**

**Resolved** that Foundation status of the scheme be pursued.

Clerk

16 **To consider response to the Smallholdings Policy Review**

A response was discussed.

**Resolved** that the response agreed be forwarded by Cllr Jinman to the clerk for submission.

PJ/Clerk

17 **To note proposals for 'Ewyas Harold Town' by Hereford Civic Society and consider any action**

The proposals were noted.

**Resolved** that no action was required.

18 **Matters for Next Agenda (no discussion)**

None.

**The meeting closed at 9.20pm**

**Next Meeting Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2015, venue Rowlestone Village Hall.**