

## **Eardisland Parish Council**

### **Draft Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at 7.00 pm In Eardisland Village Hall**

**Present:** Cllrs Maryan Hanson (Chair), Richard Kirby, Merry Albright, Shelley Connop, Jerry Blythe, Rebecca Rhys-Evans, Richard Davies

**In Attendance:** 5 members of the public, Ward Cllr Roger Phillips, standing Clerk Lynda Wilcox, Parish Clerk Amber Littleworth acting as shadow.

- 1. Apologies for absence** – there were none.
- 2. Approve HALC qualified Clerk for Clerk cover** – approved.
- 3. Declarations of interest**
  - 3.1 Merry Albright declared an interest in item 7.3.
  - 3.2 Rebecca Rhys-Evans declared an interest in part of item 16.1 and 16.4.Both Councillors signed the declarations book.
- 4. Minutes of previous meeting** – It was RESOLVED to adopt the Minutes of 8<sup>th</sup> June and 21<sup>st</sup> June 2023 and they were signed by the Chair with one amendment to item 8.7: Last sentence to read ... “A number of anomalies were reported, and it was agreed that Cllr Richard Davies would identify inaccuracies in the report.”
- 5. Public Forum** –
  - 5.1 West Mercia Police – The Fraud and Scam Bulletin 2023 issued to Councillors by email. NOTED.
  - 5.2 Ward Councillor – Updates received on the phosphates issue, Hereford Bypass, Shire Hall building renovations, Talbot Hotel (Leominster) asylum housing, Travellers Site, Maylord Retail Park intentions.
  - 5.3 Local Residents –
    - 5.3.1 A concerned Parishioner stated they are experiencing continuous problems with their next-door neighbour’s noise level. It was suggested that the local resident contact Environmental Health officers at Herefordshire Council.
    - 5.3.3 Request by a member of the Village Hall Committee to move forward with the community grants application for the Village Hall.– Agenda item 16.4.
    - 5.3.4 A Local Resident, who was unable to attend, got in contact with the Parish Clerk to confirm the exact meaning of the application under Agenda item 7.4. It was suggested that the Local Resident seek help from Herefordshire Council Planning Department.
    - 5.3.5 The Co-ordinator of Eardisland Speed Watch explained that there were now only six volunteers (the minimum number to operate a scheme) and more were required.
- 6. Financial Procedures** – The Bank balance as at 13<sup>th</sup> July 2023 was NOTED as £38,582.57.  
It was RESOLVED to make the following payments:
  - 6.1 Currys Laptop invoice £324.98 (inc £54.16 VAT).
  - 6.2 Cubs & Wots invoice £168.75.
  - 6.3 HALC invoice £807.76 (inc £134.62 VAT).
  - 6.4 J Ross invoice £300.00.
  - 6.5 Vodafone direct debit payment of £17.16 was endorsed.

## 7. Planning Applications

Application determined by Herefordshire Council:

- 7.1 P231336/FH – 2 Arrow Barns, Eardisland HR6 9BN - Proposed ground floor rear extension.  
Determination made – approved with conditions.

Comments on applications for determination by Herefordshire Council:

- 7.2 P231545/FH – 1 Lynch Cottages, Eardisland HR6 9BE – Proposed extensions and detached garage. The Parish Council would like to support in principle but were concerned that it was not in keeping with a Conservation Area. A hedge or fence would be preferable to a masonry boundary wall and there was insufficient information on the materials to be used for the exterior facing on a prominent house in the centre of the village. It was felt that Conservation Officers at Herefordshire Council would need to consider the application carefully.

*Cllr Merry Albright left the room in accordance with her declaration in 3.1 above.*

- 7.3 P231444/L – Staick House, Eardisland HR6 9BU– Proposed internal and external works to Listed Building (part retrospective).  
SUPPORT in principle provided consideration is made with the placement of heat pumps to ensure this does not become a nuisance to nearby neighbours. The Parish Council would like confirmation whether the organ will be reinstalled.

*Cllr Merry Albright returned to the meeting.*

- 7.4 P232059/PA4 - Barn at Legions Cross, Pembridge, Leominster, Herefordshire – Application to determine in prior approval is required for proposed change of use of an agricultural building to one smaller dwellinghouse (Use Class C3), and for building operations reasonably necessary for the conversion.

It was suggested that screening would be helpful to stop head lights shining into the adjacent property.

- 7.5 P230306/L – The Manor House, Eardisland HR6 9BN – Proposed improvements and refurbishment of recreational building (for use as ancillary support facilities to the holiday let business), other operations to include new patio area, gate and fences.

SUPPORT the application in principle, but would like the barn style doors to be retained and the gate and fences to match the existing walls and gates at the property.

- 7.6 P230305/F – The Manor House, Eardisland HR6 9BN – Proposed improvements and refurbishment of recreational building (for use as ancillary support facilities to the holiday let business), other operations to include new patio area, gate and fences.

SUPPORT the application in principle, but would like the barn style doors to be retained and the gate and fences to match the existing walls and gates at the property.

8. **Lengthsman Scheme** – The Chair commented that the parish had been financing its own Lengthsman scheme for years but Herefordshire Council/Balfour Beatty were now offering funding for participants of their scheme and therefore it was RESOLVED to submit an Expression of Interest by the due date of 18<sup>th</sup> August, following detailed discussion by a Working Group (Cllr Jerry Blyth, Cllr Merry Albright and Chair Richard Kirby) set up to consider the paperwork involved on 7<sup>th</sup> August.

9. **Riverbank** – Cllr Richard Davies had assessed the riverbank prior to the meeting and confirmed it is in great need of repair – the wall needed re-building to stop a possible land subsidence and flood breaches. The Clerk was INSTRUCTED to seek advice from the Environment Agency once photos had been received by Cllr Richard Davies.

## 10. Environment & Sustainability Group

- 10.1 It was RESOLVED to ask the contractor not to trim around the damaged tree which would be protected by a guard as well as mulching around the base to avoid any further damage.
- 10.2 Clerk INSTRUCTED to reiterate to contractors that weed killer was not to be used around the play equipment.

- 10.3 It was RESOLVED that the Annual Carbon Reduction Impact Report and Biodiversity Report could be posted on the PC website.
- 10.4 It was RESOLVED that the four High Priority items contained in the above two reports would be discussed at the next PC meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> September.

**11. Community Speedwatch Team** – Further to the Co-ordinator’s report in Open Discussion above, it was RESOLVED that the PC did wish to continue the scheme and would seek more volunteers and promote the importance of the scheme by way of social media and the Parish magazine. It was further RESOLVED that the PC would support training sessions for the scheme (undertaken by West Mercia Police) by funding the hire of the Village Hall and publicising the sessions. The Clerk would be involved in submitting forms to West Mercia Police.

**12. Parish Magazine** – Proposed dates of publication for 2024 were APPROVED.

**13. Parish Footpaths** – It was RESOLVED to advertise for a new Footpaths Office in the September issue of the Parish magazine and to reach out to Parishioners on the Eardisland Village Facebook group. It was noted that the role could be shared between two parishioners.

**14. Noise Nuisance** – See 5.3.1 above.

**15. Aesthetics of the Village** – It was suggested that the centre of the village was not looking its best because of overgrown hedges and weeds in verges, as well as puddles from poor drains maintenance. It was RESOLVED that parish councillors would walk the village on the evening of 7<sup>th</sup> August to enable further discussion at the September meeting.

*Cllr Rebecca Rhys-Evans left the room in accordance with her declaration in 3.2 above.*

**16. Village Hall** –

- 16.1 It was RESOLVED that the PC would in conjunction with EVHMC seek grants to set up a Community Hub in the Village Hall.

*Cllr Rebecca Rhys-Evans returned to the meeting.*

It was further RESOLVED that the PC would seek legal advice on the outstanding issues relating to works by Harpers.

- 16.2 It was understood that Herefordshire Council owned the approach road to the Village Hall and it was therefore RESOLVED that the Clerk would request that they comply with their responsibilities to maintain the road in a safe condition by filling in the potholes.
- 16.3 It was RESOLVED to seek quotations for suitable fencing to be erected around the Playground Area, to deter dogs from accessing the area and fouling near the equipment.
- 16.4 Community Grants application for Technology Hub in Village Hall ... Discussed at 16.1 above.
- 16.5 Defibrillator – It was RESOLVED to accept the quotation for a defibrillator at a cost of £140.00 and further RESOLVED that it be located adjacent to the Entrance Porch of the Village Hall (looking towards the Village Hall Car Park) at a cost of £140.

**17. Correspondence** – Nothing to raise.

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**18. Items raised for next Agenda –**

- Benches- to receive quotations and designs.
- Bank – to consider switching to different Bank (Lloyds Bank or Unity Trust).
- To receive feedback & consider action from Councillors' walk.
- To receive update & consider action regarding Lengthsman Scheme.
- Arrangements for remembrance Sunday.

**19. Date of next meeting – 14<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

The Chair closed the meeting at 21:55

Signed:

Date: