

**Minutes of Annual Parish and Annual Council meetings of Eaton Parish Council held in the Parish Hall on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 2022**

**Present: Cllrs. Evans, Goodwin, Waltho, Weedenburg, Cohen, Connon  
Ward Cllr. Lesley Smetham, PCSO Julia Short and Clerk/RFO Dorothy Waite**

**Apologies: Cllr. Lyne**

**PARISH MEETING**

**1775 – Despite publicizing, there were no residents present wishing to pose questions so the meeting passed on to the Annual Council Meeting.**

**ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING**

**1776 – The present Council Chair, Susy Evans, thanked members and all the team for the support they had shown to her over the difficult years during the pandemic.**

**1777 – Minutes**

**The minutes of the March meeting were approved and signed at the accounts meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> of April.**

**1778 – Appoint of Chair of the Council**

**The clerk and RFO was allowed to say a few words before this item and referred to the very difficult three years experienced through the pandemic but expressed her admiration for how much had been achieved during this time, i.e. the Link Road, the Neighbourhood Plan, SADPD (East Cheshire Plans), the Community Governance Review plus all the general matters which arose. She hoped that the team would stay together and continue to provide such a good service to the residents of the Parish.**

**Although she had indicated her wish to stand down from the position of Chair of the Council, Cllr. Evans agreed to stay on for another year which would lead to elections for the whole of the council in 2023.**

**1779 – Election of Vice Chair**

**Cllr. Weedenburg offered to fill the place of Vice Chair and this was approved.**

**1780 – Link Road**

**This is working well and being well used. Julia confirmed there were no matters arising on this that needed to be dealt with. Hulme Walfield were still raising issues on speed and lighting.**

**1781 – Report of PCSO**

**No major issues to report. There will be a police surgery in Eaton on the 14<sup>th</sup> of May from 2.00 to 2.30 and the clerk to post a notice of this. The average speed cameras are working well. There are instances of thefts on the perimeter of the area covered, particularly from building sites and the clerk to post a notice in the magazine to remind residents to report anything suspicious immediately on 101. Referring back to the security devices, clerk to remind residents that their valuables can still be registered under this scheme.**

**1782 – Hillmoor tipping**

The police were carrying out patrols to make sure the rules were being observed and will enquire if the drivers of the vehicles are properly licensed for the purpose. The Enforcement authorities are dealing with the ongoing problems.

**1783 – Community Governance Report**

We have succeeded in remaining as Eaton Parish Council and sensible arguments put forward were recognized. There was a late amendment to change the boundary to the link road but this was firmly defeated. The boundary in the Neighbourhood Plan, the Community Governance Report and Cheshire plan is now aligned. Special thanks are due to Ward Cllr. Smetham and our MP David Rutley for their continuing support.

**1784 – SADPD**

Cllr. Connon reported that Cheshire East has prepared written modifications to the SADPD following the Examiner's letter and these are now out for public consultation up to 31<sup>st</sup> May. Cheshire East planning officers are working hard to continue progressing the SADPD to a conclusion, and Cllr. Connon is supportive of the process.

**1785 – Neighbourhood Plan**

Cllr. Waltho will now have to make plans to revise the plan to reflect CGR and amend the boundary to fit with this. Needs to speak with Tom Evans and Cheshire Community Action. There may be a cost for this and this will need to be investigated. Some other features such as the hydro will need to be included in the plan,

**1786 – Annual Report**

Now that we have the result of CGR we can prepare the annual report of the council which will include, SADPD, Neighbourhood Plan, CGR, finance needed for the Millennium Park wear and tear and repairs plus a general report from the Chair. This can be included in the Parish Magazine which has a deadline of 20<sup>th</sup> May but needs to be in by 18<sup>th</sup> to allow for editorial organizing. Paragraphs covering the above will be e-mailed to the clerk for her to prepare the report.

**1787 – Neighbouring Councils**

There have been no further meetings under this heading.

**1788 – Liaison with Tarmac**

Clerk to send a reminder to Daniel Ives for reply to the points raised following the meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> April.

**1789 – Rospa Report**

Several intermediate risk items but mostly low. For the moment we will concentrate on replacing the swing seats and the platform repair. Other matters will be monitored.

**1790 – Millennium Park**

Cllr. Lyne has contacted Marton School and they will be pleased to take over the sun dial from the park which has fallen into disrepair. As stated above, we will concentrate on the two main items needing attention.

**1791 – Bus Shelters**

We will make enquiries to find a small general builder who can do the work required. Cllr. Goodwin has a contact to follow up.

**1792 – Audit arrangements**

As the office of Sandbach Council is still not available for the accounts to be dropped, the Clerk has arranged to take the accounts to the pick up near Mold and she will continue with husband for the remainder of the day at Bodnant Gardens – so no expense to the council. The auditor will return the accounts to the clerk by post.

**1793 – Accounts for payment**

As requested by the Council, the clerk submitted her account on the new hourly rate of £11/hour. The accounts for payment were

- Chalc subscription £206.28 – cheque No. 773
- Rospa inspection £100.80 – cheque No. 774
- Gallagher – council insurance - £721.76 – cheque No. 775
- D.Waite – salary and allowance £501.66 – cheque No. 776
- J. Lyne – website maintenance £59.91 – cheque No. 777

There was a discussion, following on from the accounts meeting, that in view of the major rises in the cost of repairs and purchases, the ceiling for the acquisition of three quotes, presently c.£350, should be raised. A figure of £1000 was suggested but this will be subject to strict investigation into more than one quote and no tender in this range will be taken on board without due diligence. It was felt advisable to do this as the occasion may arise when a major item is required as a matter of urgency and the council considers the single quote to be reasonable. This is further qualified in that although the limit is set at £1000 to give flexibility, we are still duty bound to demonstrate value for money with public funds. One of the best ways of doing this is through a competitive tender process so there is nothing which prevents us from seeking multiple quotes for works of less than £1000.

**1794 – Bi-monthly report**

This was included in the end of year accounts

**1795 – Magazine report**

To include appointment of Chair and Vice Chair; Community Governance Review result; thanks to residents, Cllr. Smetham and MP David Rutley for their CGR support; Rospa report needing some minor repairs; reports to police of anything suspicious, accounts completed and going off to audit shortly.

**1796 – Next meeting**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held in the Parish Hall on Tuesday the 5<sup>th</sup> of July at 7.00 pm.

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**ACTION LIST FROM MEETING 3<sup>RD</sup> MAY 2022**

**CLERK TO POST NOTICE OF POLICE SURGERY AT END OF BEECHWOOD DRIVE ON 14<sup>TH</sup> MAY FROM 2.00 TO 2.30. ALSO REMIND RESIDENTS TO REPORT ANYTHING WHATSOEVER SUSPICIOUS ON POLICE NUMBER 101.**

**CLERK TO E MAIL OUR MP DAVID RUTLEY TO THANK FOR HIS SUPPORT ON CGR**

**CLLR. WALTHO TO FOLLOW UP AMENDMENTS TO THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

**COUNCILLORS AND CHAIR TO E MAIL ITEMS FOR THE ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CLERK BY 16<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

**CLERK TO SEND REMINDER TO TARMAC FOR REPLY ON POINTS RAISED**

**CLERK TO CONFIRM TO IAN BONNER THE WORK NEEDED IN THE PARK**

**CLLR. GOODWIN TO FOLLOW UP CONTACT FOR QUOTE ON BUS SHELTERS**

**CLERK TO TAKE ACCOUNTS FOR AUDIT**

**CLERK TO PREPARE REPORT FOR MAGAZINE AS PER MINUTES**