

Minutes of meeting of Eaton Parish Council held in the Parish Hall on Tuesday 7th March, 2023

Present: Cllrs. Evans, Waltho, Lyne, Weedenburg and Connon, Ward Cllr. Lesley Smetham, Clerk Mrs. D. Waite

Apologies: Cllrs. Goodwin and Cohen

Residents: Kate Hart and Sue Cook

Both Kate and Sue had come to the meeting to learn of the update on the flooding problem.

COUNCIL MEETING

1853 – Minutes

The minutes of the January meeting, having been circulated, were approved and signed

1854 – Flooding update

Cllr. Waltho has had meetings with Cheshire East, Highways, Flood Risk Officer and United Utilities. Tried to get them to work together in any surveys and we have been assured that surveys will be carried out. We are not fully aware of the circumstances on the night of the flooding. Cllr. Waltho mentioned to UU that drainage from roofs or extensions and surface water being put into the sewer but UU stated this would not make any difference. UU are acting quickly, they are putting their sensors in particular spots in the village to check the flow levels. They are also doing CCTV scans on the drains at the bottom of Beechwood Drive which collects from the far end of the village. Ultimately it goes through the garden of Cllr Lyne and into the sewer across the road.

There is an issue with the 6” sewers in that they are not up to dealing with the pressure and UU maintained that they were adequate. The rain water drains going into the sewer may be causing a problem with the sewage. UU are also checking on the drains on the left side of Beechwood Drive where the hydrant bubbles over. With Cheshire East there is a problem that we will have to wait until the new financial year takes over to know what money is available. If there is proof that the drains are OK, we then possibly approach the question of the field drains but we cannot do this at present. Cllr. Waltho will send both sets of his notes to CE and UU to include in any of their future meetings. They are aware of the drains put in between the Plough and the houses backing onto there which are at present coping. Cllr. Lyne stated it is now up to UU and CE to prove that the drains are working and the pressure on the highway culvert. She has pictures of some drainage work and will send these to Cllr. Waltho.

Three of the houses on School Lane have non-return valves and these will be useful for No.2 Beechwood. Cllr. Evans confirmed these were in Nos. 5, 7 and 9.

Cllr. Lyne commented that CE were rather late in coming on board but again we will have to wait until the finances for the upcoming year are known.

Cllr. Waltho expected UU to act in the next two or three weeks but CE insisted it will have to wait for the known finances. Await further developments

1855 – NP, CGR, SADPD

Cllr. Connon had inspected the SADPD documents and he is happy with the protection for the village on this and the NP backs this up. Cllr. Waltho was not sure if the NP needed an update in the future and possibly on a regular basis. Some of the updates are an outcome of CGR. We would look to include Havannah in any update in line with CGR. As far as Eaton is concerned it is as good as it can

be. Cllr. Connon noted 11.6 years of land that CE have and he cannot see any large development of housing.

The next local plan is coming up for review and any land allocation will be in this and we must keep an eye on this. On the mineral plan we must again keep watch on this as the plan only covers the next 14 years. It is understood that the land on the northern site still belongs to the families and the land will return to agriculture once sand extraction is finished. We need to find out what were the initial planning policies when the quarry was originally opened in the 1970s.

1856 – Parish Council Elections

These take place on the 4th of May and the Clerk had attended an election meeting and collected all the necessary forms for nomination on this. Cllrs. Evans and Connon will be moving from the parish and therefore not standing. However, it was welcome that Cllrs. Waltho, Weedenburg, Goodwin and Lyne agreed to seek re-election. Cllr. Lyne stressed that one more year was her condition, particularly to maintain the website for us. Cllr. Waltho will investigate other possible candidates.

1857 – Boundary Signs

We had thought of delaying these following the flooding but Cllr. Smetham advised that the cost of work on the drains, our financial input would not make a difference and she advised to carry on with the boundary signs with the monies available from CE. Cllr. Waltho thought we would need five and Cllr. Smetham will complete the initial forms to apply and recommended we should apply for the total number at the same time. She recommended talking to the contact from North Rode who had supplied us with designs to ascertain the possible total cost including installation. We confirmed with Cllr. Smetham that we wished to go ahead.

1858 – Bus Shelter Repairs

Again, we will need to wait for better weather conditions before we can progress this.

1859 – Tarmac

Cllr. Connon will check into the original plan and reply to us. It is this we know nothing about and we will await the reply from Cllr. Connon. No need at the moment to ask for a liaison meeting.

1860 – Millennium Park

We are awaiting the Rospa report next month. We still need to ask Tarmac to do some work on the ground under the swings and slide. We need some certified finish to make it safe. This was agreed with Dan before he left and we need to follow this up. Speak with Cllr. Goodwin about the removal of the dangerous bench which is becoming urgent.

1861 – Website

Cllr. Lyne is keeping this up to date and submitted her account from IONIS in the sum of £35.96 covering November 2022 to date. As reported above., she is willing to serve a further year to continue this work

1862 – Coronation Celebration

A celebration lunch for the village has been arranged for the 14th of May through the Eaton Village Amenities Fund. Members of the council will arrange for a hanging basket to be given for the raffle – in aid of East Cheshire Hospice – at their personal donations.

1863 – Havannah Estate

The residents of the village are unhappy about the maintenance of the village areas by the company they are registered with. Cllr. Smetham advised that it was down to the conditions of the planning application. They do not have a say in the matter and they must take legal advice on this. They are writing to their over-arching body. It is a legal matter where we cannot be involved.

1864 – Accounts for payment

Clerk account £501.66 – cheque No. 793

Cllr. Lyne – payment for website maintenance - £35.96. Cheque No.794

1865 – Bi-monthly finance report

Statement of payments, receipts and bank reconciliation e-mailed to councillors and checked against bank statements. All approved.

1866 – Change of Internal Auditor

JDH Business, following the difficulties during Covid, are no longer able to carry out our internal audit. Through Cllr. Smetham we have made contact with the clerk at Gawsforth, Adam Kepple-Green, who is also town clerk at Knutsford and being fully qualified had offered to undertake our audit at the sum of £150 and is able to collect all the papers from the clerk. This offer was unanimously accepted by the council. This is actually below the figure we paid last year.

1867 - Accounts meeting

The clerk advised that the papers should be ready for the meeting by mid April and the meeting will take place at the home of Cllr. Evans on Tuesday 11th April at 6.30 pm. Any councillors unable to attend will be sent a copy of the accounts for their approval before the meeting.

1868 – Highways

It has been noted that the footpath from the Eaton Bank roundabout has been update in part. Clerk to contact Andy Simpson for the work to continue over the narrow path area beyond this.

1869 - Noise concerns

A number of residents are concerned about the noise from The Plough during wedding and disco events. Clerk asked to write to them requesting their proactive and effective plans to cut down on this, particularly with summer coming up when patrons may open windows and doors, making the issue more noticeable.

1870 – Magazine report

Update on the flooding and advise that the extensive notes presented by Cllr. Waltho can be viewed on the website. Also stress that any enquires or concerns should be initially addressed to the clerk who will facilitate a reply. The revised date of the Annual Parish and Annual Council meetings following the local elections.

1871 – Next Meeting

The date of the annual meeting which was set for May 2nd will now need to be changed to a date following the local elections. This is now Tuesday 16TH MAY AT 7.00 PM in the Parish Hall for the Annual Parish Meeting with the Annual Council Meeting to follow.

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SIGNED.....

DATE.....

ACTION LIST FROM MEETING 7TH MARCH 2023

CLR. LYNE TO SEND DRAINAGE PICTURES TO CLLR. WALTHO

CLLR. WALTHO TO SEND MEETING NOTES TO CE AND UU

CLLRS. TO INVESTIGATE POSSIBLE NEW COUNCILLORS

CLLR. SMETHAM TO CARRY OUT INITIAL REQUEST ON BOUNDARY SIGNS

CLERK TO CONTACT NORTH RODE ON TOTAL COST OF THE ABOVE

CLLR. CONNON TO CHECK FOR THE ORIGINAL QUARRY CONDITIONS

CLERK TO ASK TARMAC FOR MORE WORK ON THE MUDDY AREAS

CLERK TO SPEAK TO CLLR. GOODWIN ABOUT BENCH REMOVAL

COUNCILLORS, WHERE POSSIBLE TO ATTEND ACCOUNTS MEETING 11TH APRIL

CLERK TO CONTACT ANDY SIMPSON ABOUT CONTINUATION OF PATH WORK

CLERK TO WRITE TO PLOUGH TO ASK THEIR PLANS ON NOISE REDUCTION

CLERK TO NOTE REVISED DATE OF AGM IN MAGAZINE AND THAT FLOODING NOTES ARE ON THE WEBSITE.