

**Minutes of meeting of Eaton Parish Council held in the Parish Hall on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January, 2024**

**Present: Cllrs. Weedenburg, Waltho, Goodwin, Cook, Thorpe. Clerk Mrs. D. Waite and Ward Cllr. Lesley Smetham**

**Apologies: Cllrs. Lyne and Cohen**

**No residents present**

**MEETING**

**1936 – Minutes**

**The minutes of the November 2023 meeting being approved were signed**

**1937 – Flooding and drains**

**Drainage and flooding in various areas in the village continue to be a problem with no final solution. A blocked drain in front of the Plough has been reported and there are others on the A536 also needing attention. The strong spouts of water via the hydrant in Beechwood Drive continues and although being reported to Highways, no response has been received. Cllr. Waltho, although having had discussions and promises from the Highways team is still awaiting reports from them on various tests on the system. The water pouring via the hydrant is believed to be coming from the fields behind Beechwood Drive and also from the field behind the top of the drive. It is likely that any drains or soakaway on the field has become blocked over the years and has not been maintained. At present it is not advisable to move water in the drains more quickly towards the A536 as the culvert in the road still needs to be investigated and hopefully enlarged. Cllr. Smetham has a contact she can approach and Cllr. Waltho will provide her with a summary of the problem and action needed so that maybe we can make some progress both on the reports awaited and also the problem in Beechwood Drive which requires investigation from the land owner. At present we are making little progress and it is also down to finance and work load in the highway department**

**1938 – Plough and parking**

**Cllr. Weedenburg will contact our PCSO with a view to removing the regular parking in front of the Plough. Other parking during events at the Plough still occurs but is not causing a major problem.**

**Noise is still coming from the Plough during large events but it is difficult to come up with a solution other than turning down the sound at the event.**

**1939 – Hillmoor**

**There is an ongoing investigation into the tipping and we are awaiting reports from Environment on this. Also planning have our views on the application which was initially for a stable but is now turning into something possibly more permanent and again we are awaiting information**

**1940 – Boundary signs**

Cllr. Smetham advised the funding for these fell under S106 regulations and at the present the situation as to whether boundary signs can be included is confusing. She will enquire into the present thinking on this and get back to us. Ideally, we require several boundary signs at key points around the village.

**1941 – Planning**

Cranshaws – we have no objection to this but ask that consideration is given to neighbours on the working hours and also respect to the old Quaker burial ground on the site

Moss Lane application – Cllr. Waltho enquired of Lesley whether any decision has been made on this. We had sent in a strongly worded objection to the proposal. It appears that requests have been made by highways etc for further information but we feel that the application goes against PG6 and should be firmly refused. Any permission could easily lead to further housing development in the area.

**1942 – Tarmac**

No reply received on our request for possible dates for a liaison meeting and the clerk will contact again

**1943 – Bus shelter repairs**

Clerk to remind Tom Aindow of our request for a quote

**1944 – Orchard project**

Awaiting arrival of fruit trees at the local nursery to progress this

**1945 – Broadband speeds**

Cllr. Cook has been looking into this and from information she has, there is work in hand to bring remaining properties on the edges of the village into receipt of fibre broadband with hopefully better news by the next meeting

**1946 – Roundabout planting**

Following requests from Congleton to take part on this, we are firmly of the opinion that this being a major road feature then maintenance from Highways should cover this and we do not intend any planting, Should there be any problem we can contact the highway authority.

**1947 – School Lane speed limit sign**

The clerk has asked highways to move the sign by Smithy Farm to a position beyond the junction with Bebbington Road but is still awaiting a response

**1948 – Diversions to School Lane**

Cllr. Lyne had raised concerns on this but on investigation it came about when an accident on the A536 made it necessary for emergency vehicles to use the lane and it is not thought this would be a continuing issue and in any event the use by emergency services is something necessary at the time.

**1949 – Raised beds**

Some planting in these has taken place but in the Spring we need to inspect and see what further planting is needed. Clerk to ask in magazine for volunteers to join a rota to keep them weed free and tidy

**1950 – Accounts for payment**

Clerk account - £501.66 – cheque No. 811

Account Fisher German – 5 year rent of bus shelter site - £4.99 – cheque No. 812

**1951 – Bi-monthly finance report**

Statements of payments, receipts and bank reconciliation forwarded to council members and following check with the bank statements all approved. We have a healthy reserve at the moment but repairs required in the village will trim this back. The clerk had sent the precept to Cheshire East and this had been acknowledged.

**1952 – Magazine report**

To include keeping residents updated on flooding and drains. Also request for raised beds maintenance.

**1953 – Next meeting**

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00 pm. to include annual risk report for signing and approval. An accounts approval meeting will be required some time in April.

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**ACTION LIST**

**CLLR. WALTHO TO SUMMARISE FLOODING AND DRAINAGE POSITION AND FORWARD TO CLLR SMETHAM FOR HER CONTACT**

**CLLR. WEEDENBURG TO CONTACT OUR PCSO WITH A VIEW TO REMOVING REGULAR VEHICLE PARKED BY THE PLOUGH**

**CLLR. SMETHAM TO ENQUIRE PRESENT THINKING ON FUNDING BOUNDARY SIGNS AND ADVISE**

**CLLR. SMETHAM TO STRESS OUR OBJECTIONS TO MOSS LANE APPLICATION**

**CLERK TO CONTACT TARMAC FOR LIAISON DATES**

**CLERK TO CONTACT TOM AINDOW FOR BUS SHELTER QUOTE**

**CLERK TO PREPARE MAGAZINE REPORT AS NOTED IN MINUTES**