

ELDERSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Eldersfield Parish Council held on Tuesday 9th November 2021 at Eldersfield Lawn School, commencing at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Mrs C Joseph (Chairman), Mrs W Burr, Mrs D E Holt, Mr C Mills,
Mrs T A Owen

In Attendance: District Councillor Bronwen Behan
Simone Bullen, Footpaths Officer

**Members of the
Public:** -

1. Apologies for absence

Mr P Chichester
County Councillor Tom Wells

2. Members' interests

None

3. Adoption of the Minutes of the previous meeting

The draft Minutes of the meeting held on 14th September 2021 were accepted as a true record of that meeting and were signed as such by the Chairman of the meeting.

4. Matters arising

None

5. Report from District and County Councillors

District Councillor Bronwen Behan reported that bin collections over Christmas and the New Year would be on their usual days.

She also noted that the Government had declared an Avian Flu Prevention Zone across the whole of Britain, and that restrictions relating to chickens, pheasants, partridge, and other birds were being brought in. Keepers of such birds are advised to follow the relevant published guidelines.

MHDC is holding an online workshop to discuss what action local councils can take to combat the present Climate Emergency.

6. Report from the Parish Footpaths Officer

Simone Bullen advised the meeting that 53 footpath issues had been identified in the Parish. Some she had been able to address herself, but others required assistance and she was in close contact with WCC to secure that assistance. On her walks she had affixed some 60 waymarks – and could see the need for more.

She asked members of the public to advise WCC promptly of any problems they identified relating to public rights of way in order that such problems might be identified, prioritised and resolved.

The Council thanked the Footpaths Officer for all her hard work to date.

7. Public Comment

None

8. Three Stages Motor Rally

Correspondence in respect of the Rally received from two parishioners and from the Rally organisers had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting.

Councillors recognised that regrettably inconvenience had been caused. While nothing could be done to change past events, they agreed that greater scrutiny would have to be paid to any future proposal to run the Rally through the Parish, and that specific and detailed performance undertakings may have to be sought from the organisers.

9. Queen's Platinum Jubilee

The working party reported that it had investigated various options for the acquisition and distribution of trees (and hedges) and that it was now seeking suitable sites. [Private landowners, if they would like to host a commemorative tree or hedge on their land, near a public footpath, are invited to make themselves known to the Clerk.]

The working party is continuing to develop options and will report at a future meeting. It will also engage with the Footpaths Officer to identify any suitable sites along footpath routes, liaising with Worcestershire CC and any relevant landowners.

10. Defibrillator and Training

Cllrs Mrs Holt and Mrs Joseph attended a training course in Malvern at the end of October and both agreed that it was highly worthwhile. In their view, it was likely to be of interest to many parishioners. They reported that the organisers, Heartstart Malvern, would be prepared to run a similar course, without charge, at the School early in the New Year.

It was noted that a torch could usefully be kept within the defibrillator box, and that the outside of the box should be marked with the postcode. Cllr Owen offered to donate a torch.

Council thanked the two councillors for their report and agreed that the training initiative should be pursued. Councillors thanked Cllr Owen for the gift of the torch. [The torch is now held within the box and the outside of the box has been marked with the postcode.]

11. Shed and Catering Equipment

The working group had met several times, and had been in consultation with both the School and the PTFA.

It reported that it had divided its work into two stages.

Stage 1: to sort, dispose of unsuitable items and PAT test relevant electrical equipment;

Stage 2. to review the condition of the shed and recommend whether it should be repaired or replaced. They would investigate these options and would put their recommendation to the Council at a later date.

The working group had noted that the use of appropriate storage boxes would facilitate the management of the stock and recommended that the Council purchase such boxes.

The Council noted this report and thanked the working party for its efforts.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk purchase suitable storage boxes at a price not exceeding £100 (excluding VAT).

12. Marquee Storage Boxes

The Council noted that the Clerk, in accordance with Resolution 12 passed at the Council's meeting of 27th July 2021, had purchased four wheeled boxes for the storage of the marquee at a price of £159.96, and it was **RESOLVED** that this sum be repaid to him.

13. Lengthsman

Council noted the report from the Clerk on the services provided by the Lengthsman since the last meeting for which invoices had been submitted as follows: £118 September.

14. Internal Auditor

The Clerk reported that discussions with a potential candidate were underway.

15. Grant

It was noted that the Council had received £325.00 as a grant from the Cheltenham Motor Club. The Council instructed the Clerk to write to the Cheltenham Motor Club to express its thanks.

16. Marquee

Council noted the letter of thanks received from the Parochial Parish Council and circulated prior to the meeting.

17. Authorisation of Disbursements

It was **RESOLVED** that the following disbursements be made for goods and services:

£144.45	J L Gabbott (Clerk)
£159.96	J L Gabbott (4x marquee storage boxes)
£34.20	HMRC
£118.00	Jeremy Moore (Lengthsman, £118 Sep)

18. Future Meetings

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Council be held on Wednesday 12th January 2022, commencing at 7.00 p.m. (not 7.30 pm) at Eldersfield Lawn School, if available.

19. Any other business

None

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.23 p.m.

JLG 12.11.21