

ELDERSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of Eldersfield Parish Council
held on Monday 7th March 2022
at Eldersfield Lawn School, commencing at 7.00 p.m.**

Present: Mrs C Joseph (Chairman), Mrs W Burr, Mr P Chichester, Mrs D E Holt,
Mr C Mills

In Attendance: Mrs Simone Bullen, Footpaths Officer

**Members of the
Public:** -

1. Apologies for absence

Mrs T A Owen

2. Members' interests

None

3. Adoption of the Minutes of the previous meeting

The draft Minutes of the meeting held on 12th January 2022 were accepted as a true record of that meeting and the Clerk was authorised to sign them as such.

4. Matters arising

None

5. Report from District and County Councillors

No councillor was present and no report was available.

7. Public Comment

None

6. Report from the Parish Footpaths Officer

Mrs Simone Bullen, the Parish Footpaths Officer, advised the meeting that there were 54 footpaths issues on her agenda. Although this total number appears static, it conceals the fact that as some were being resolved others were being added.

She reminded the meeting, and the public, that she could be contacted by email at eldersfieldparishpaths@gmail.com

The Council thanked her for her efforts, which are greatly appreciated.

8. Cheltenham Motor Club

The request for a response to the consultation issued by the Cheltenham Motor Club with respect to a proposed 3 Stages motor rally to be held on Sunday 18th September 2022 was noted.

Councillors remarked that before the rally in 2021 they had been led to believe by the rally organisers that the event would be held in the Parish only occasionally, not annually. They also noted that not only were there no direct benefits to the Parish but that there was in fact much inconvenience: there had been some damage, e.g. to verges, and much disturbance to residents, in that their right to use public thoroughfares had been curtailed. Additionally, special measures had to be taken to protect livestock.

Councillors also noted that the route planned for 2022, which includes narrow lanes near Eldersfield Church, was likely to cause more disruption than the route chosen for 2021.

The meeting was united in feeling disappointment that the offer by the rally organisers to come to the January meeting to make a presentation, and the Council's invitation, subsequent to that offer, to hear that presentation, had not been followed by the attendance of the organisers at the meeting. Such a failure saps trust.

The Council therefore instructed the Clerk to respond to the organisers as indicated above, and in addition to write to the relevant highways authority to object to any application from the organisers for a 'closed road' permit in respect of roads within the civil parish of Eldersfield.

9. Road Safety

The Council continues to be interested in making roads in Eldersfield safer, and in particular in ensuring that speed limits are not exceeded. Accordingly, the Working Party has arranged to meet the Traffic Management Advisor, Road Safety, of West Mercia Police on 17th March.

The Working Party will submit a report to the Council at the next meeting.

10. Defibrillator and Training

A training course on first aid, but with special reference to the defibrillator, is booked to take place at the School on 19th April at 7 pm, with a maximum of 12 attendees. That course is now fully booked but a second course may be run, possibly in May. Those interested are invited to contact Cllr Tracy Owen, (tracy@penpapergift.co.uk).

The Council is keenly aware that defibrillators can save lives and encourages local businesses, where people congregate, to consider installing one. Grants are available from various bodies, and the Clerk would be pleased to give assistance in providing details of these.

Councillors thought that it might be appropriate for the Council to purchase and install a second defibrillator in a place open to the public, and a working party was instituted to investigate the matter.

11. Parochial Church Council

It was noted that the Parochial Church Council had requested a grant of £149.99 for the purposes of defraying the costs associated with a community event at Easter. Councillors supported the community event but expressed disquiet that the application did not put into context the grant which the PCC was asking of the Council and instructed the Clerk to bring this matter to the attention of the PCC for their guidance in the submission of any future applications.

It was **RESOLVED that a grant of £149.99 be made to the PCC for the purpose of defraying the costs associated with a community event at Easter.**

12. Queen's Platinum Jubilee

The Working Party reported that sites had been identified and final preparations were being made for the planting of a variety of trees.

A suggestion had been received by the Council that black poplars would be suitable for certain areas, given their affinity for water, but that none of the planting selections included this variety. Accordingly, it was agreed that Council would purchase 15 such trees for £54, within the authority granted in Minute 220112 09.

13. Shed and Catering Equipment

The Working Party referred members to the Report circulated prior to the meeting.

The Council congratulated the Working Party on its findings, which it endorsed in their entirety, and **RESOLVED that those items identified in the report for disposal be disposed of.**

14. Storage Boxes

It was noted that Cllr Carole Joseph has bought boxes for the storage of crockery and other items belonging to the Council and it was **RESOLVED that the purchase price of £57.00 be reimbursed to her.**

15. 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 January, £118 February.

16. Authorisation of Disbursements

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

£153.53	J L Gabbott (Clerk)
£38.80	HMRC
£57.00	Mrs Carole Joseph (boxes for shed)
£236.00	Jeremy Moore (Lengthsman, £118 Jan, £118 Feb)
£149.99	Parochial Church Council, grant

17. Future Meetings

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Council be held on Tuesday, 10th May 2022, commencing at 7.00 p.m. at Eldersfield Lawn School.

18. Any other business

A Natural Networks Webinar is scheduled to take place. The Chairman announced that she would take part and submit a report at the next meeting.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

JLG
10.3.22