

ETTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 18th OCTOBER 2023

Present: Councillors D Clarke, R Smith (Chair), R Whitfield, G. Lambert

Attending: Clerk Jane Carter. District Councillor Trevor Harvey. County Cillor Izzy Seccombe, four members of the public

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| 1 | Apologies for absence or not present Apologies received from C. Melville Wright, D Hughes, and I Houghton. Noted and accepted |
| 2 | Declaration of Pecuniary Interests: - None declared |
| 3 | Minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting on Wednesday 13 th September 2023 were approved and signed as true record. It was noted the Community Centre Trustees had approved the toilet plans subject to minor changes for fire door requirements. The minutes of the Parish Fund Trustees were approved and signed as a true record. |
| 4 | Community Centre Update: there had been several successful social events and finances were healthy. Cllr Whitfield said that a meeting of the Trustees was being arranged |
| 5 | Warwickshire County Council report: Cllr Seccombe reported that the Pre School lease was under discussion, but the matter was being resolved and the school was secure. The County Council had conducted a review of its finances considering other county councils in the area and these were satisfactory and being closely monitored. Highways had objected to the siting of the travelling showmen site at Pillerton Hersey. Stratford District Council updates: Councillor Harvey reported the council's finances had been reviewed and were also secure but continually being reviewed. Consultation on The Gateway Project to build a World Shakespeare Centre among other facilities was underway. There was now a fee for residents wishing to add their names to the self-build register |
| 6 | Open Forum A resident asked if the council had any information on the future of Ettington Chase or the Pure Recycling Centre. There were no updates. A resident said that the flooding on Banbury Road had been severe during the recent storms and drains needed to be cleared. A resident asked if anything could be done about the speed of the traffic through the village and introducing 20mph limits. The Chair explained that all traffic calming avenues had been explored. |
| 7 | Community Speedwatch Update: Jayne Topham, the new Community Speedwatch organiser for Ettington, updated the council on activity. There were ten qualified people in the village and six were active within the group. Volunteers would be welcome. There was one speed gun for the group which was very heavy. A new model had been suggested which was lighter and easier to use. |

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| | After a discussion, the parish council agreed to buy two speed guns for use by the group at a cost of up to £500. Clerk to arrange. |
| 7 | <p>Planning and Highways Matters:</p> <p>I. Highways matters: there was a discussion regarding the work carried out to the highways outside the shop to lower the kerb and improve the footpath. Cllr Seccombe confirmed it would be expensive to move the lamp post and WCC would not bear the cost. It was agreed improvements were still needed to widen the footpath stretching to Rogers Lane and another dropped kerb. A meeting with Cllr Seccombe, Highways officials and representatives from the Parish Council would be arranged. Cllr Smith and Cllr Seccombe to liaise</p> <p>To consider</p> <p>I. 23/02683/FUL St Thomas A Becket House Stratford Road Ettington Warwickshire CV37 7NU. Proposal for the repair and reinstatement of existing brick boundary walls at the property which lie within the curtilage of the Grade II Listed building, the tower of the former Church of St Thomas A Becket, Ettington. Proposed works do not require any alteration to the listed building itself. - NO COMMENT</p> <p>To note:</p> <p>i. 23/02188/FUL Ettington Hall Rookery Lane Ettington Warwickshire CV37 7TN. Proposed single-storey extension to the rear – PERMIT WITH CONDITIONS</p> |
| 8 | <p>Finance Report</p> <p>The finance report had been circulated: -</p> <p>i. Payments and receipts as circulated were approved</p> <p>ii. Bank reconciliation: current account- proposed by Cllr Whitfield and approved</p> <p>iii. Bank reconciliation: reserves accounts- proposed by Cllr Whitfield and approved.</p> <p>iv. Assets Register Updated: the clerk reported she had examined all the assets and updated the register. The dog bin at the entrance to the playing field was in a poor state. The clerk had obtained three quotes for replacement, and it was agreed to purchase a larger bin at a cost of £320 plus VAT from Glasdon. The asset register inspections and updates were noted. The updated register would be added to the website</p> |
| 9 | <p>Clerk's and Correspondence Report – This had been circulated and was noted. It was agreed that a meeting be held with the Community Centre Trustees and thereafter on a more regular basis. The Clerk had spoken to the appointed auditor regarding the role of the Parish Council as Custodian Trustees. It was agreed the auditor should provide a summary of the role. A budget of up to £100 for advice was agreed.</p> <p>Approval for the purchase of a new baby swing seat strap at a cost of £65.73 was agreed.</p> |

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| | The clerk had received emails regarding the state of some of the grass verges in Ettington. The county council were due to complete one more cut. There had also been complaints about grass cuttings being dumped in the hedge in Rogers Lane. The clerk would report this to SDC. |
| 10 | School defibrillator: No further updates. This would now be added to the Clerk's report. |
| 11 | School Clock Maintenance: The clerk was awaiting an update from the insurance company with regards to the increased value of the clock and clarification on responsibility for any future damage caused by fire or damage to the Clock Tower. Cllr Smith would consult with the residents |
| 14 | Playground development update: Six tenders had been received and were being circulated to members of the Working Group. A shortlist would be agreed, and the proposals would be made available for public consultation. |
| 15 | MUGA Update: A grant of £2000 had been received from WCC Councillor Grant Fund. Cllr Seccombe was thanked for her support. This would be used to digitalise the booking of the courts and the operation of the lights during the winter. The clerk reported that the remote lighting system did not operate with the current booking system, and she would look at other options. |
| 15 | Dates of Future Meetings The next meeting would be Wednesday November 8th, 2023. The meeting was closed at 9.30 p.m. |

Approved By _____

Date _____