

Minutes of a Meeting of the Ercall Magna Parish Council held on Tuesday, 20th October 2020 at 7.00p.m. via Zoom.

PRESENT: Cllr E Aston Cllr K Connor
Cllr G Barrow Cllr S Bentley
Cllr R Wickson Cllr A Glenholmes
Cllr M Ward Cllr R Hartshorne
Cllr C Purves Cllr S Walker (arrived 373/10/20.C)
Cllr Y Homer Cllr L Hughes
Cllr A Price (until 381/20/20.C)

In Attendance: Katrina Baker (Acting Clerk)

366/10/20.C Apologies for Absence
Cllr S Walker hoped to arrive later (373/10/20.C)

367/10/20.C Declarations of Interest
Councillor S Walker Solar Farm proposed application

368/10/20.C Minutes
It was proposed by Councillor Aston and seconded by Councillor Gelnholmes, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 15th September 2020, be accepted as a true record. All were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that these be signed by the Chairman as a true record and included in the Minute Book.

369/10/20.C Public Participation
None

370/10/20.C Urgent items raised by the Chairman
None

371/10/20.C Finance & Personnel Committee
a) Meeting held on 22nd September 2020
The Chairman presented the Minutes which had been circulated , for information. There were no matters arising.
b) Payments
There are currently no invoices due for payment.
c) Financial Update
The Scribe Financial Package has been purchased and is currently been uploaded and all relevant information included.
A full financial report will be available for every meeting, to meet the audit requirements and full budgetary information will be available to assist with the budget process for 2021/22.

372/10/20.C

Planning**a) Report**

Councillor Connor presented the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting on 13th October 2020, for information.

b) Solar Power Plant Consultation

The application has now been submitted to Telford & Wrekin Council and a full consultation process has commenced.

It is disappointing that the applicants and agent have not arranged for an information event to be available for the communities, particularly the Roden residents. It was further disappointing, and not acceptable, that the companies had not responded to the questions raised at the meeting with them.

These matters had been raised with the Planning Case Officer and a meeting with her has been requested before the Parish Council finalises its response.

Ercall Magna Parish Council had resolved to Call-In the Application, this will enable the application to be determined by the Planning Committee Members at Telford & Wrekin Council, rather than the decision being delegated to an officer. Members agreed it is vitally important that any decision on this major application in the Parish is made when all the facts are available and in an open and transparent way. When the application is on the Planning Committee Agenda, the public can attend to hear the deliberations and a representative of the community, the Parish Council and the Ward Member can all speak at the meeting.

The proposals have been brought to the attention of Shropshire Council, which has a policy of not permitting a solar farm application if bigger than 50 acres. The main concern for the Parish and the Borough of Telford & Wrekin remains the decommissioning process and costs, at the end of the 40 year period. It is essential, that a legal agreement is in place, with relevant and appropriate funding allocated and available, to ensure that the site is returned to green field / agricultural land at the end of the life of the solar farm in order to ensure, for future generations, that this does not become a brownfield site and therefore open to development.

c) Decisions

There have been none since the last meeting.

d) Ercall Magna Neighbourhood Development Plan

A useful meeting had taken place with MB, the consultant, and the Regulation 14 document is nearing completion. The relevant appendices will need to be added and it will then be submitted to Telford & Wrekin Council as part of the consultation. A draft letter has been produced that will accompany the wider consultation which will be undertaken alongside the TWC review of the document, which is primarily to determine if the Ercall Magna Neighbourhood Development Plan is in accordance with TW Planning Policies.

It is still hoped that the Referendum can take place in May 2021.

e) Ercall Magna Parish 'Wish List'

Indicative Prices are being collected and a document will be presented to a future Projects include:

Play Area at Roden

Footpath B5062 to Marlbrook Way and lighting
Rural Transport
High Ercall to Walton footpath
Raised platform on B5062 in High Ercall
Speed Indicator Devices
Gateway signs and planters

373/10/20.C Police Matters

Members wish to invite the Inspector to the next meeting so that questions can be asked regarding local incidents and information.

Matters of concern include:

Speeding in Poynton Road, Roden
Inappropriate use of narrow lanes by HGVs

It is hoped that a Liaison Officer will assist with the remainder of the Smartwater kits, which need to be distributed around the Parish in order for the signs to be made available and erected.

Cllr S Walker arrived.

374/10/20.C Highway and Environment Issues

a) Environmental Issues

- i) Work on hedges and trees, as recently reported, has been completed. The hedge to the rear of Talbot Fields has been cut back.
- ii) A number of signs, including those from Walton and Haughton to Roden, need to have hedges cut back as they are obscured.
- iii) The hedge at 12 Cliff Crescent remains uncut, despite assurances – this needs urgent attention.
- iv) Dog fouling is, once again, becoming a problem in the villages. Members were reminded that this can be reported to Crimestoppers. Cllr Homer and Cllr Ward would write an article for the next newsletter (December / January edition) and include this information. It would also remind residents that free dog poo bags are available from High Ercall and Waters Upton shops.

b) Highways

- i) The Mill Bend Bridge is nearing completion and we have been assured that the work to alleviate the flooding on the bend will be completed whilst the road is closed.
- ii) The road condition, and in particular the potholes on the B5063 from Walton towards Shawbury have also been reported.
- iii) The blocked drains at The Grange, CH, have been reported.
- iv) The proposed scheme for the A442 at Cold Hatton includes for new gateway signs and a fixed SID – this is to be located at the site of the most incidents and accidents. The total cost of the scheme is £35000 and it is pleasing that TWC has

now included it in its capital programme to be completed this year.
The SID will include for sensors to be fitted on each of the approach roads to the Cluster site, which will illuminate the sign as any vehicles approach and not just on the A442 – this will be an enhanced safety feature. As this project is a joint venture between EMPC and WUPC both logos will be added to the gateway signs.
It was proposed by Cllr Connor and seconded by Cllr Purves, all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that the Parish Council contribute £3500.00 to this scheme.

- v) TWC will be asked for details of the proposed scheme for Roden, this will be funded by the Section 106 funding and is to be provide speed restriction measures through the village.

- vi) Members took an opportunity to discuss a range of traffic, speed and safety issues and it was agreed that the Parish Council should consider a 'Quiet Lane Scheme' on various roads around the Parish. This will be added to the next agenda for further consideration.
In the meantime, 'Making Space for Pedestrians and Cyclists' will be raised at the Rural Forum with Councillor David Wright, Cabinet Member for Highways.
A reminder will be sent to the Manager at Greenhouse, as a number of local drivers (HGV and cars / vans) are forgetting the need to drive appropriately around the rural lanes and to avoid using Rowton and Silver Hill for access.

375/10/20.C Shropshire Association of Local Councils

a) All correspondence from the County Secretary had been passed to Members for their information.

Members are encouraged to read the bulletins and news items as they often contain useful information.

The AGM will take place on 20th November, by Zoom. Councillor Hughes and Councillor Purves will represent Ercall Magna PC.

The Minutes of the last WAC meeting have been circulated for information.

b) Changes to Planning

A reply had been received from Mark Pritchard MP, who will be taking up the views of Shropshire PTC through the process.

376/10/20.C Street Lighting

All street lights have now been upgraded and are all in good working order. This will now enable the energy usage to be re-assessed and the bills will be accurate and lower than we have been experiencing.

**377/10/20.C Village Halls
Ellerdine**

The Village Hall continues to have limited use and remains Covid-safe.

High Ercall

New Members joined the VH Committee at the recent AGM. The Hall is Covid-safe and there are no events taking place, but the Friday night bar has re-opened. The refurbishment of the toilet areas will be the next project. There is a vacancy for a Parish Council representative on the Village Hall Committee.

378/10/20.C Telford & Wrekin Council

Councillor Bentley updated Members on some of the issues that he has been dealing with since the last meeting, these have included Cliff Crescent, the A442, Mill Bend Bridge, overgrown hedges and inappropriate use of Poynton Road. He has submitted the request for cycle stands and is awaiting the outcome before finalizing the locations throughout the Ward.

TWC is attempting to change the process for Ward Members, and PTCs to have access to senior officers when issues dictate that assistance is required at a high level. This is currently being challenged.

Councillor Bentley has wreaths for all Parishes in the Ward for Remembrancetide.

379/10/20.C The Cleveland Arms

A reminder will be sent to TWC for their assistance in ensuring that the hedge (adjacent to the bowling green and path) is cut back to allow appropriate access and better visibility.

No further information has been received from the Charity.

A reminder will be sent to the Enforcement Officer, especially in relation to the breaches in the conditions.

380/10/20.C Correspondence

All correspondence has been shared with Members, who have an opportunity for any item to be added to the agenda for discussion / consideration.

The Bus User Group minutes have been circulated.

All Members are invited to the Rural Forum on 22nd October at 7.30pm via Zoom.

Councillor Price left the meeting due to IT issues.

381/10/20.C Councillors Reports**Climate Change – Parish & Town Council Working Group**

Councillor Purves had represented EMPC at the meeting on 17th September, this was a low-key introduction to the Partnership and a discussion took place regarding the role of Parish & Town Councils in the structure which will monitor and move forward the TW Climate Emergency objectives. A model tool kit has been provided to assist with any local audits – PTCs should make their own decisions and consider actions that can be taken locally, including renewable energy, street lighting, land management, speed limits, promoting walking and cycling etc.

The Parish Council will consider forming a Working Group at the next Planning Committee meeting. This may involve the schools, village halls, local groups and organizations, as well as community representatives.

Councillor Bentley asked that other issues be taken into consideration such as

Food Waste – importance of providing the bags – this can be used as fertilizer
TWC should be eradicating landfill

Ensure appropriate procurement of fleet transport buses (hydrogen / electric)

Respond to Local Plan consultation – to include reference to transport in rural areas, electric car charging points, solar panels, heating, green spaces, walking and cycling routes, appropriate use of trees etc.

382/10/20.C Clerk's Report

Barclays – there has been a delay in changing the Admin on the Current Account, when this has been resolved, we will be able to apply for online banking.
HMRC – awaiting details of the PAYE reference.

The Parish Charter Monitoring Group will be undertaking a review of the Parish Charter and it has already been agreed that the following matters will need to be addressed:

- Changing times of TW meetings, such as Planning, as this means the public may not be able to attend
- Officer contacts – especially when there is a need to escalate a concern / complaint
- Customer Charter
- Use of My Telford

383/10/20.C Parish Matters

Councillor Hartshorne informed members that he had purchased a Silhouette Tommy for Roden, this will be on the corner of Poynton Road as part of a display for Rememebrancetide.

Councillor Barrow will erect the lamp post poppies, an additional 10 are required for Roden and more for Ellerdine.

Thanks were extended to the Acting Clerk for keeping Councillors up-to-date with current matters.

384/10/20.C Next Meetings

4 th November 2020	7.30pm	Planning Committee
17 th November 2020	7pm	Full Council

These meetings will take place via Zoom.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for their important contributions to a successful meeting which closed at 8.50pm.

Signed Date

Please note that these minutes remain draft until agreed and signed at the next meeting of the Parish Council on 17th November 2020