

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Ercall Magna Parish Council held on Tuesday, 16th June 2020
at 7.00p.m. via Zoom.**

PRESENT:

Cllr E Aston	Cllr K Connor
Cllr L Hughes	Cllr A Price
Cllr G Barrow	Cllr S Bentley
Cllr R Wickson	Cllr A Glenholmes
Cllr M Ward	Cllr R Hartshorne
Cllr C Purves	Cllr S Walker

In Attendance: Katrina Baker (Acting Clerk)

306/6/20.C Apologies for Absence

As all Councillors were in attendance, there were no apologies.
Members continued to send their good wishes to Edward.

307/6/20.C Disclosable Interests

Cllr R Wickson	Neighbour	TWC/2020/0473	Personal
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RESOLVED to note the above Disclosable Interests that were received on any item included on the agenda in accordance with Sections 50-52, Local Government Act 2000 and The Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) (England) Act 2001. It was **AGREED** to accept any Disclosable Pecuniary interests as they may arise during the meeting.

308/6/20.C Minutes

It was proposed by Councillor Hughes and seconded by Councillor Connor, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 17th March 2020, be accepted as a true record. All were in favour, with three abstentions, it was

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

309/6/20.C Public Participation

None.

310/6/20.C Scheme of Delegation

The Parish Council has continued to function and fulfil its statutory duties, due to the Members' resolution to implement their Scheme of Delegation.

The Local Authorities and Police & Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority, Police & Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 came into force on 4th April and apply to all authority meetings in England up to 7th May 2021. These regulations enable us to hold meetings remotely on any day at any time. There is no requirement for an Annual Parish Meeting in 2020 and all appointments made by Ercall Magna Parish Council (Chairman, Committees, Outside Body representatives etc) will continue until the next Annual General Meeting (May 2021) unless the Council resolves to hold an AGM before this date.

The requirement for press and public to be able to attend can be satisfied remotely using Zoom or Teams.

Members declaring a pecuniary interest, can be put into the waiting room during the discussion and vote and as with a normal meeting, they can then return.

Similarly, the Regulations have give local authorities greater flexibility for the deadline by which the Annual Return, this has now been extended to November 2020 (instead of September). Also, under the new regulations, there is no requirement for a common period for the exercise of public rights. There is still a need for a 30 day period, but this no longer has to include the first two weeks of July.

b) Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

In accordance with the requirement for the Council to confirm its standing orders and financial regulations for 20/21, Members agreed that the current versions would be confirmed and this will be reviewed in May 2021 unless there are any Government directives to amend the Documents.

**311/6/20.C Urgent items raised by the Chairman
Annual Report**

The Chairman presented his Annual Report for 2019/20. A copy had been circulated and would appear on the website.

It was confirmed that further work is continuing regarding a request for a footpath from Marlbrook Way, Roden to the B5062 and associated street lighting.

Councillor Aston had also attended a training event during the year.

**312/6/20.C Finance & Personnel Committee
a) End of Year Accounts**

Copies of the accounts had been circulated. Members noted the reduction in the balance at the end of the financial year which was a result of additional project expenditure which included the smartwater kits, the bus shelter at Roden, and the Arriva 519 bus contribution.

Edward had completed the end of year accounts with the information provided and bank statements for the year and produced the Receipts and Payments Account to complete the AGAR.

A VAT repayment request has been submitted, for £8571.36.

RESOLVED that the end of year accounts be agreed and adopted.

The documents and information are ready to be sent to the Internal Auditor.

b) Annual Governance Statement

Members considered the statement and confirmed that they acknowledge the responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control including arrangements for the preparation of the Accounting Statements. It was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Councillor Purves that the Annual Governance Statement for 2019/20 be completed and Members agreed to all eight Systems.

RESOLVED that the Annual Governance Statement for 2019/20 be completed and signed by the Chairman, on behalf of the Council.

c)Accounts for Payment

A scheduled of payments had been circulated and it was proposed by Councillor Connor and seconded by Councillor Purves that arrangements be made for these to be paid as

soon as possible. It is important that arrangements are put in place to enable electronic payments, particularly for periods of time when signing cheques is a problem.

Cheque No	Item	Statute	Amount
100440	Parish Online Subs	LGA 1972	£96.00
100441	Acting Clerks Hours	LGA 1972	£735.00
100442	Grass cutting /roadman - April	LGA 1972 s111	£140.00
100443	Tree Works	LGA 1972 s111	£75.00
100444	PPE, sanitiser etc	LGA 1972 s137	£150.09
100445	Affiliation Fees	LGA 1972	£652.78
100446	Street Light Repairs	LGA 1972 S14 p34	£325.32
100447	Website and Emails	LGA1972	£490.80
100448	Insurance	LGA 1972 s 140	£522.44
100449	Grass cutting - May / June	LGA 1972 s111	£200.00

d) The Clerk

Edward is continuing to improve and although his arm is still in plaster, it is healing well and he hopes to have the plaster removed in the near future. He has informed the Council that he still cannot drive and when he can, he is to drive to visit his family down South, and spend July with them. As we will then be in August, with no planned meetings, he has an appointment with his surgeon mid-August, following which he will meet with the Parish Council to discuss his return to work.

Clerk

e) Grant Application

Members had received information about the TWC Kindleness Project. After a discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Connor and seconded by Councillor Bentley, that a grant of £150.00 be awarded to the project which is providing kindles to care homes, hospital wards etc. to address isolation and loneliness in the Borough. Roden and Hatton Court have received devices. All were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that £150.00 be granted to TWC, for their Kindleness Appeal.

313/6/20.C

Planning

313/6/20.1.C Report

Councillor Connor presented the Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings which had taken place since the last meeting.

Councillor Hartshorne confirmed that the original New Farm application was withdrawn in 2017 and for clarification, the work has been carried out under a Change of Use clarification. This had been confirmed to the Parish Council following an Enforcement Enquiry which confirmed that all work undertaken is as per permission granted.

It was confirmed that all Members should received the Planning Committee Agendas, they are also available on the website.

Ercall Magna Neighbourhood Plan

The Planning Committee had taken into consideration all the comments recently

received from Councillors and a final draft had been distributed for approval. Information is available to create the appendices, which will include the Boundary Plan, Regulations and full history of the development of the Neighbourhood Plan through consultation with the community.

RESOLVED that this version is ready to progress to the next Regulation Stage and that the content is acceptable to all Members, although it was accepted that the layout may need enhancing.

Thanks were extended to Michael Barker and Councillor Purves for their work to get the document to this stage in the process.
The Plan will be sent to TWC for their observations and comments.

Cllr CP

313/6/20.2.C Current Planning Applications for consideration

TWC/2020/0459 The Grange, Cold Hatton

Erection of 2 Agricultural Structures

Members considered the size and location of the proposed structures and whilst there was no objection to the provision, it is important to remember the historical value of the farmhouse and Members would ask TWC to take this into consideration when determining the application

RESOLVED to support the application, but to ask TWC to take the historical value of the site into consideration.

Clerk

Councillor Ray Wickson declared an interest and took no part in the discussion on the next application

TWC/2020/0473 1 - Bradford Terrace, High Ercall

These Almshouses are Listed and whilst it was agreed that the wall needs repairing and a new plaque installed, these works need to be appropriate and therefore the Conservation Officer will monitor and approve the works.

RESOLVED to support the application and to ask that the work be agreed by the TWC Conservation Officer

Clerk

313/6/20.3.C Decisions

Details of application decisions have been circulated to members.

314/6/20.C

Police Matters

No report had been received from WMP.

Members had noticed an increase in police and road safety partnership vehicles in recent weeks and this is important as the traffic volumes have increased, along with the speeds.

The speed of traffic through Roden continues to be an issue and it was good to have seen officers on the junction with Poynton Road recently.

Average Speed Cameras are not suitable for such a village and Speed Indicator Devices are still planned. This has been delayed due to the current pandemic situation. The SIDs will record speed, data including the type of vehicles (eg HGVs) which can be used

to assess other speed enforcement initiatives that may be necessary. Concerns have been raised regarding structural damage to property, as the HGVs travelling at high speeds are causing significant vibration inside the adjacent properties. Residents are advised to take up this matter with the Highways Department.

Families have been advised not to use the children's play equipment and the areas remain closed. The police have been informed when reports of use have been received.

315/6/20.C Highway and Environment Issues

a) Environmental

It is good that requests for action are being received direct and that action can be taken as soon as possible. A number of overgrown hedges have been reported and work has taken place on footpaths etc.

b) Highways

A number of local issues have been reported and TWC / Idverde have attended.

There were no new matters to report.

316/6/20.C Shropshire Association of Local Councils

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

Cllr Wickson, as Chairman of SALC, had attended a virtual National Association Meeting today and ensured that Shropshire was mentioned.

The Chairman brought to the attention of Members, a new Code Of Conduct consultation – Members are asked to peruse this and it will be include on the next Agenda for discussion.

Clerk

b) Training

Councillor Connor had attended a webinar on Employment Matters and received information relating to contracts of employment. Copies of the slides are available, for information.

317/6/20.C Street Lighting

There are no current faults.

The upgrade programme is nearing completion and this is scheduled for the end of July 2020.

A credit had been received from Eon following the renegotiation of a contract which has been backdated to its renewal date. Current invoices are due. Thanks were extended to Katrina for her help to achieve this.

A quotation has been requested for the lights from Marlbrook Way to the B5062.

Clerk

318/6/20.C Village Halls Ellerdine

The Village Hall is currently closed following Government Guidelines. Limited access is allowed for maintenance and security checks.

The Committee allowed the use of the Village Hall as a rescue centre for a recent

incident in Ellerdine Village.

High Ercall

The Village Hall is currently closed. Access has been allowed for maintenance and decorating purposes.

The playing field is being used by local residents for exercise.

Both village halls had received a Government Grant to replace lost income.

There has to be a risk-based approach to re-opening if and when the Government announce that community centres can re-open.

319/6/20.C

Telford & Wrekin Council

i) Councillor Bentley first wanted to place on record, his thanks to the Senior Officers and Staff at TWC for their dedication to supporting the local communities through this difficult period. Many officers had been redeployed to assist with their Covid 19 response and action plan. This has resulted in less staff available for every day matters. It was agreed that the Chief Executive be informed of the thanks offered from Ercall Magna Parish Council.

ii) When work commences on Mill Bridge, there has been an assurance that No HGV signs will be placed on the junction with Poynton Road, so that this route will not be used as a diversion.

iii) It was disappointing that TWC have not acted upon the events of the fire in Cliff Crescent, Ellerdine. As Ward Member, Steve is taking this up to a higher level as the local residents, including the victims, have been let down by the Local Authority with regards to a large number of issues relating to the site.

It is important that they realize and accept, that had action been taken earlier, when the concerns were brought to TWC attention, then this event could have been avoided. Enforcement is needed. The community deserves support and action!

There are issues that remain, which are dangerous and are putting lives at risk – this cannot be allowed to continue unchallenged.

It was RESOLVED that the Parish Council should support Councillor Bentley and the community in the aims to ensure that TWC, and any other relevant agencies, continue the necessary enforcement action to make this site safe and to protect the neighbours, village, locality, and residents, from further life-threatening events.

Clerk

Some members were concerned that they did not know of the events of the evening in question and it was agreed that the recent letter from TWC be shared and that the Parish Council replies to the officer confirming that the Parish Council is not satisfied with the actions to date and to point out the risks that remain. TWC has a duty to protect and safeguard residents – we must insist that they do this.

Councillor Bentley wished it to be recorded that thanks were due to the Village Hall Management Committee for opening up the Village Hall, for use by the residents, fire and police officers throughout the night.

Within the correspondence, it will include requests for specific actions such as planning consent for over 50% of a garden covered with outbuildings – details of the 'spread of

fire' requirements; a decontamination plan for the land; removal of excessive vehicles from private garden areas; cutting back of a garden hedge to ensure safety and visibility on a public highway.

iv) Councillor Bentley thanked all members and volunteers involved in the Community Support Programme and thanked the PCC for the grant to enable the purchase of PPE equipment to support them in their role.

320/6/20.C

The Cleveland Arms

There has been no recent update from interested parties.

The valuation for the bowling green from SPFA has not yet been received.

Work has continued inside the building.

It was RESOLVED that the Parish Council, on behalf of the community of High Ercall, should demand action from the Local Authority to ensure that the building is in a safe condition and that there is no risk regarding its stability following the continued work inside the building.

Clerk

The hedge on the boundary of the bowling green has grown over the footpath and its height is causing a visual obstruction. As a domestic hedge, it can be reduced at this time of year.

The Parish Council will look for actions by the enforcement team as TWC has the power, legal authority and a statutory obligation to deal with public safety.

321/6/20.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.

- A report from High Ercall Primary School had been distributed to Members, for their information.

322/6/20.C

Clerk's Report

The Acting Clerk continues to keep members informed of matters throughout the month.

£5000 had been received from TWC towards the production of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Councillors' Reports

VJ Day Celebrations

It is difficult to plan for this important date due to the current uncertainty regarding safe-distancing and the opening of public areas and buildings.

If and when more information is available, a meeting will be arranged to discuss this in more detail.

The parish council will consider bunting, a service at the Memorial, attending a service at church or chapel – hopefully more information will be available on 4th July.

Cllr LH

323/6/20.C

Parish Matters

Disappointment was recorded that a hedgerow has been removed between Roden and Shrewsbury. Whilst it could be accepted that this is to assist with visibility, it is not acceptable that it takes place in the nesting season.

The damaged wall, adjacent to the Hall on the path to the church has been reported to

the owner and the Diocese, for action.

324/6/20.C

Next Meetings

21st July 2020 7pm 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.