

CHILDS ERCALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Childs Ercall Parish Council held on Wednesday 21st August 2024 in the Jubilee Hall at 7.00p.m.

Present: Cllr. J Maddocks (Chair)
Cllr. G Barnes
Cllr. J Griffin
Cllr. M Hatfield
Cllr. J Letts

Also in attendance:
Barbara Pearce (Clerk)
3 Members of the Public

120/2024 Apologies for absence

Cllr. B Sale
Cllr. R Crookes
Cllr. P Clifton
Cllr. Gittins

RESOLVED: To receive apologies of absence for this meeting

121/2024 Chairman's Welcome

Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Chair thanked Katrina Baker, Councillor and President of SALC for presenting the Jan Snell Award, which she did immediately prior to the meeting in the playground.

There was no meeting in July due to holiday.

Chair congratulated CECA, The Club and Church for hosting successful events over the summer, including Party in the Park, Coffee Mornings and a Wine Tasting Event. The Village Tidy Ups also took place as part of the Best Kept Village Competition.

Upcoming events include Dua Lipa and the Horse and Dog Show which is scheduled for 14th September.

122/2024 Declarations of Interest

RESOLVED: that the following declaration of interest under consideration on this agenda in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 s32 and under The Relevant Authorities (Shropshire Council disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 was received:

None.

123/2024 Public Question Time and Participation

3 members of the public in attendance to discuss St Michaels/Crow Lane 7.5 tonne weight restriction infringements. Members of the public have been assessing and monitoring incidents. "Operation Snap" discussed.

Parking on footpaths had been discussed at previous meetings. Item regarding this was included in the parish newsletter. A letter-drop and/or adding a further article in the next newsletter discussed. Also discussed, adding issue to the Local Policing Charter via PCSO Tara Carruthers.

Action: Chair to follow up by investigating "Operation Snap" and contacting PC Ian Mackintosh at Market Drayton Police.

Action: Sub-group to follow-up with PCSO Carruthers to attend meeting to discuss PC's items on the Local Policing Charter.

124/2024 Minutes

RESOLVED: To accept the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on 19th June 2024 as being correct.

125/2024 Matters arising/action taken from the Minutes not otherwise included in the agenda.
None.

126/2024 Safety in the Parish

Footpath parking – discussed at 123/2024.

127/2024 Highways and footpaths

a. St Michaels/Crow Lane 7.5 tonne weight limit

Discussed at 123/2024.

b. Eaton Road (village part) safety improvements

VAS/SID (speed indicator devices) on the Eaton Road.

Action: Chair to speak to Graham Bould Chair of Eaton-on-Tern relating to how the VAS/SID was actioned there.

c. A41 working group – updates on new cross county group.

No further update.

d. Footpaths – to consider any queries which may impact on the parish.

No issue.

e. Streetlights - Lamp replacements. Dark skies initiative.

Broken streetlight at Leafields has been reported and new light ordered. Replacement quoted at £290. Not replaced as yet.

Replacement bulb at St Michaels Way invoice now paid.

Dark Skies. No further update. **Action: Chair to follow-up.**

128/2024 Parish Matters

a. Land Transfer of land around the bus stop– update on land registration.

Land has been removed from original owner on Land Registry – registration to PC still pending. Chair to continue to monitor with the item staying on the agenda until completion.

b. FTTP/Gigabit roll out in the parish.

Chair has received a schedule from Freedom Fibre for installation of poles and Chair requested the plan with no response. **Action: Chair to chase.**

c. Trees – Tree Preservation, planting, and maintenance.

Chair thanked Richard Crisp for maintenance work carried out on the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Trees during the Village Tidy Up on 29th June.

Chair obtaining 30 free whips from the Woodland Trust as part of their large organisation carbon offsetting initiative, due October/November. Placing TBC.

d. Best Kept Village Competition (BKVC) Environmental Management Grant Application.

Judging due in August but no confirmation from organiser regarding when they will visit. Second village tidy up took place at end of July, Chair thanked the 40-50 volunteers that took park over the two sessions. Plants all funded by donation and fundraising. Thanks to volunteers for taking care of the tubs and hanging baskets.

Environmental Maintenance Grant of £237.50 received from SC used for verge cutting done by M&J Bloore Mowing Services. Grant to be matched by PC for wildflower sowing.

PC hopes that the Village Tidy will become an on-going community initiative.

e. Dog Fouling in the Parish

Dog Warden has responded. As there have been no complaints no funding is available to provide support for a further dog waste bin.

RESOLVED: Extra bin to be purchased by PC to a maximum budget of £300, source and fit, and placed at the end of concrete path opposite St Michaels Way. PC to pay annual £180 for emptying.

f. Blocked Footpaths

Cllr. Letts has contacted landowners where footpaths have been blocked with positive response to try to keep clearer next year.

SC have funding to replace unsafe stiles with gates and Cllr. Letts is in contact with landowners to see if any are willing to take this up.

Cllr. Letts will continue to liaise with landowners.

Footpath map is on the website and to be included in the newsletter to encourage residents to use all the footpaths in the parish.

Commercial waste noted on private land. **Action: Chair to contact Cllr. Gittins regarding issue.**

g. Marcus Mackay Recognition

RESOLVED: Plaque to be placed either at the new oak tree recently planted on the playing field. Clerk to order plaque once wording has been confirmed.

129/2024

Grounds Maintenance/Playground

a. To receive an update from the grounds sub-committee.

No response from contractor regarding a start date for the path work.

RESOLVED: Cllr. Hatfield to instruct second choice contractor to place contract.

Grass cutting by K&S Landscapes is on schedule and of good standard. Contract expires October 2024.

Action: Cllr. Barnes to contact contractor regarding contract for next year with a view to extending to 3-year contract.

Fencing work now completed to a good standard. Invoice paid.

b. Playground – to receive the monthly inspection report.

Inspection report received, no issues reported. Inspections are carried out bi-weekly.

c. Mechanical inspection of the playground – Kompan to Tim Simmons.

Work previously resolved to be carried out by Kompan, however, a more competitive price has been obtained from Tim Simmons.

RESOLVED: Cllr. Barnes to instruct Tim Simmons to carry out the work.

d. Presentation of the Jan Snell Award by Katrina Baker, Councillor and President of the Shropshire Association of Local Councils.

Took place in the playground prior to the meeting. Chair thanked Katrina Baker for making the presentation and Anne Cadden and Christine Makay for attending as representatives of the group who worked to complete the project.

Shield to be displayed in the Jubilee Hall. **Action: Cllr. Barnes.**

130/2024 Parish infrastructure projects – Community Plan

- a. On-going maintenance and repairs to assets.
Inside of Bus Stop requires repair. Chair to obtain quote.

An asset review should be undertaken annually to record the PC's assets and value. PC need a review of the assets to include a replacement value, and risk, for budgeting purposes.

Action: Cllr. Hatfield is looking at the Asset Register regarding maintenance/risk.

- b. Commitment to the football pitches and Clubs.
4 (possibly 5) teams returning for next season. Fixture list not out as yet.
Goalposts have been removed as new are required for the upcoming season due to the re-configured pitch layout.
- c. Nature Trail, tree planting, conservation, and environment.
No further update.
- d. Rural bus services - North Shropshire Wheelers – currently in Cheswardine, Hinstock and maybe Stoke-on Tern. Potential subsidy
No further update.
- e. Environment. Tree and hedge planting, LED lights, dark skies initiatives.
No further update.
- f. Larger community project – Place Plan.
No further update.

131/2024 Advertising and social media/website

Website continues to be well used with consistent traction, approx. 800 views per month. Domain has been renewed, many thanks to Cllr. Letts for the donation.
Cllr. Griffin continues to produce excellent monthly newsletters. Next edition to concentrate on Jan Snell Award, Horse Show, CECA Events and footpath parking.

132/2024 Grants and Donations

To consider any new applications.

- **Ben Harrison – representative of the four local football teams for new goal posts.**

Cost of Goalposts £1029.99. PC had previously resolved to contribute to new goalposts in June 2023. Grant Application does not show updated details and costs.

RESOLVED: PC to award £500 subject to receipt of fully completed Grant Application Form.

- **CEPC sponsorship of a Class at the Village Horse Show 14th September 2024 - £30.**

RESOLVED: PC to make donation of £30.

133/2024 Planning Applications.

- a. New Planning applications.

None

- b. Existing Applications

i. Withdrawn
None.

ii. Refused
None.

iii. Granted
None.

Any other planning matters.

- i. Land Rear of the Birches.
No further update. Due process continues with SC.
- ii. Eaton on Tern Solar Farm
Reserve matters obtained in April 2024. Chair to continue to monitor.
- iii. Furbers application – 28 homes
Statutory consultees have made strong objections, but the application has not been refused as yet. No further update.

134/2024 To receive reports from Unitary Councillor

No report received.

135/2024 Financial Matters

Members are asked to:

- a. Receive and confirm the payment of the items to be presented to the meeting:
 - i. SSE Energy Solutions 1490090012932 DD – £222.70 (January – June 2024)
SSE Energy Solutions 1490080001092 DD – TBC
SSE Energy Solutions 1490070001095 DD – TBC
 - ii. Administration July/August - £593.20
 - iii. K&S Landscapes (cuts 18/06, 03/07, 17/07 and 30/07) - £1128.00
 - iv. ROSPA Playsafety Inspection - £196.80
 - v. A Dixon Fencing Contractors - £4447.20
 - vi. M&J Bloore Mowing Services (payable to J Maddocks – re-imburement) - £240.00

RESOLVED: Clerk is authorised to pay these invoices.

b. Reconciliation

	<u>Balance as at</u> <u>07/06/2024</u>	<u>Outgoings</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Closing</u> <u>Balance</u> <u>12/08/2024</u>
Treasurers A/C	£22,904.24	£8081.90	£793.19	£15,615.51
Business A/C	£7,140.31	£0.00	£22.60	£7,162.91
Playground Account	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
95 Day Notice Account	£15,155.32	£0.00	£101.64	£15,256.96
Total PC available cash	£48,199.87	£8081.90	£917.43	£38035.38

ESTIMATED CASH MOVEMENTS 2024/25

2024/25 commitments	Remaining Annual running cost	£8094.13	
	2024/25 Grants and Donations	£2,000.00	
	Contingency	£15,000.00	
	Un presented cheques	£240.00	
	CIL(fence paid		
	£4447.20)	£11910.66	
Future Income	VAT owed	£998.11	
			£1178.70

The above reconciliation was discussed and there were no questions.

Interest Rate on the 95 Day Notice Account reduced from 4% to 3.81%.

c. To consider Bank Signatories

To be considered at next meeting.

136/2024 Any new matters relating to the parish not included elsewhere on the agenda.

None

137/2024 Date of next meeting.

Members are asked to note the next meeting of Childs Ercall Parish Council is scheduled to be held on Wednesday 18th September at 7.00pm in the Jubilee Hall.