

CHILDS ERCALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Childs Erccall Parish Council held on Wednesday 18th October 2023 in the Jubilee Hall at 7.00p.m.

Present: Cllr. J Maddocks (Chair)
Cllr. M Hatfield
Cllr. J Letts
Cllr. P Clifton
Cllr. G Barnes
Cllr. J Griffin
Cllr. R Gittins

Also in attendance:
Barbara Pearce (Clerk)

164/2023 Apologies for absence

Cllr. J Longdon

RESOLVED: To receive apologies of absence for this meeting

165/2023 Chairman's Welcome

As Vice Chair, Cllr. Maddocks will be taking the Chair following the resignation of Cllr. Cadden in September. Cllr. Maddocks thanked Cllr. Cadden for her considerable work and dedication to the PC for the last three and a half years and reported that PC files had now been transferred over to him.

Cllr. Maddocks thanked everyone involved with the organisations within the Parish for hosting so many varied activities, such as the Horse & Dog Show, Harvest Lunch, Quiz and Bollywood Nights, amongst others.

He thanked Cllr. Barnes and Cllr. Letts for their work on the website, which is being well received and gaining increased traction, and the village calendar which has been a success, and to refer to it for future events.

166/2023 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.

167/2023 Public Question Time and Participation

None.

168/2023 Minutes

RESOLVED: To accept the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on 20th September 2023 as being correct.

169/2023 Matters arising/action taken from the Minutes not otherwise included in the agenda.

None.

170/2023 Councillor Vacancy

RESOLVED: Richard Crookes co-opted to the Parish Council and was welcomed to the Council.

171/2023 Safety in the Parish

Chair reported that West Mercia Police Safer Networking Neighbourhood Team will be holding a drop in event at Morrison's in Market Drayton on 1st November 2023. The team have not attended a parish meeting or visited the Club carpark for several months.

172/2023 Highways and footpaths

a. Update on Crow Lane Weight Limit

Cllr. Gittins reported that work is continuing to complete the project; Kier have ordered signage and are waiting for delivery. They are obtaining permits for road closures required to put signs in. Cllr. Gittins reported a completion date of December.

b. Eaton Road assessment with SCC Highways

Cllr. Maddocks to pursue the feasibility study requested many times from SCC, with no response, regarding safety on Eaton Road.

c. Highway issues

Research was carried out earlier in the year regarding community led initiatives such as installing VAS devices or operation of speed cameras in the Parish, however, there was little appetite for this when presented at the Annual Meeting in May.

Improvements have been made around the parish, potholes have been fixed, Crow Lane and Narrow Lane have been re-surfaced.

Following heavy rainfall there is flooding at Leafields, which may cause danger especially with speed of drivers, together with mud on the roads.

Discussion on improving access to the playing fields from the gate on Newport Road, as an alternative to the Eaton Road access.

Hill Wicket still not repaired (badgers). Cllr. Maddocks continues to report on Fix My Street.

Construction signs have been left in the village.

d. Footpaths

Cllr. Letts and Cllr. Barnes will add a footpath map to the website

173/2023 Parish Matters

a. Land Transfer – update on land registration and Aaron and Partners account.

Cllr. Maddocks continues to monitor the situation. Item to stay on agenda.

b. Air monitoring station – update following presentation at the June meeting.

No further contact received from Environment Agency / Bureau Veritas. Item to stay on agenda.

c. Airband – FTTP roll out in the parish.

Airband vehicles seen in the parish. Cllr. Maddocks has been in contact with Airband who inform they are investigating BT chambers with a view to rolling out FTTP. Cllr. Gittins noted that if parishioners have any questions/concerns he can feed information into the Connecting Shropshire Team. Item to stay on the agenda.

d. Constituency Changes.

Update from Cllr. Gittins:

There has been a constituency change which means some parliamentary boundaries have moved. Two Shropshire divisions, Hodnet and Cheswardine (which covers Childs Ercall) have moved from North Shropshire to Wrekin.

e. Boundary/Governance – Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE)

Update from Cllr. Gittins.

Shropshire Council along with the Electoral Commission has undertaken a divisional boundary review. The 74 Shropshire divisions to remain for the next set of local elections so no change for Childs Ercall.

f. Trees

There are now TPOs on trees at the Hall. Cllr. Maddocks will remain in contact with SC Tree Officer regarding any further issues should they arise.

Jubilee Platinum Trees and whips are not doing well, Cllr. Maddocks and Cllr. Clifton monitoring. May need replacing in the Spring.

Parishioner has asked to plant on the Village Green next to their memorial bench. PC discussed issue with maintenance. PC to develop policy on planting on open areas in the parish and a decision will be made in line with the policy.

- g. Christmas social

RESOLVED: There will be a Christmas social at the December meeting - Wednesday 20th December with drinks and nibbles. Event to be promoted and will include a six-month update, and proposals for 2024.

174/2023

Grounds Maintenance/Playground

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

The Village Green and bus stop have been cut with thanks to the Grounds Sub-Committee for their efforts with this. Thanks also to Les Blaney for mowing the football pitches to maintain our commitment to the teams, and to Cllr. Maddocks for mowing the playground (with Len Sambrook strimming). Noted that the PC has tried very hard to contact and work with the current contractor, Idverde, without success. Some part of the Green has not been cut since early July and they are not responding to e-mails, phone calls etc.

RESOLVED: Following consideration of 3 quotes, K & S Landscapes Ltd are approved for the 24-25 contract.

- b. Playground

Cllr. Barnes provided the maintenance report, with no issues reported. Cllr. Barnes continues to empty the bins.

Cllr. Maddocks to liaise with Ivor Godwin regarding hedge cutting.

- c. Community litter pick and playground tidy up.

RESOLVED: Date for litter pick and tidy up to be 4th November (morning).

175/2023 Parish infrastructure projects – Strategic Objectives

- a. Strategic Objectives Plan and Place Plan.
- b. Improvements to the playing fields, playground and the village green.
- c. Commitment to football pitches.
- d. Nature trail, tree planting and conservation.
- e. Rural bus services – North Shropshire Wheelers – currently in Cheswardine Hinstock and maybe Stoke-on-Tern. Potential subsidy
- f. Environment
- g. Larger village project.

Due to time constraints the above were not discussed and will be forwarded to next month's agenda.

176/2023 Advertising and social media / website

Thanks to Cllr. Barnes for production of the Church newsletter for the last 2 months. Website continues to be well received.

RESOLVED: Contributor for the Church newsletter to be rotated on a 2 monthly basis. Cllr. Griffin to take over for the December and January publication.

177/2023 Small Grant Applications 2023-24

None received since last meeting.

178/2023 Planning Applications.

a. New Planning applications.

None.

b. Existing Applications

- i. Withdrawn
None.

- ii. Refused

Reference: 23/03588/AGR

Address: Hatton Estate Yard Hatton Road Hinstock Market Drayton Shropshire TF9 2TX

Proposal: Relocation of proposed building for the storage of machinery and fodder.

Applicant: Mrs Simon Wragg

Status: Refused

- iii. Granted
None.

Any other planning matters.

- i. Land Rear of the Birches
Due process continues with SC.
- ii. Eaton on Tern Solar Farm
No further update.
- iii. Furbers
No further update.

179/2023 To receive reports from Unitary Councillor

Cllr. Gittins reported that an A41 Working Group had been formed, including both Shropshire Council's and Telford and Wrekin's Highways Teams. They are looking at feasibility options relating to road safety along the A41 to the M54. Some of the options being discussed with West Mercia Police are, installing mobile speed cameras with average speed areas. Cllr. Gittins will keep PC updated.

SC experiencing in year financial pressures, and now forecasting £23 million yearly deficit. Work taking place to bring this back to balance. Work continuing at Planning Quality Team to complete Local Plan.

180/2023 Financial Matters

Members are asked to:

- a. Receive and confirm the payment of the items to be presented to the meeting:
 - i. Southern Electric - £51.50
Southern Electric - £16.01
Southern Electric - £22.55 September (Direct Debit 17/10/2023)
 - ii. Hugo Fox – £11.99 Website Subscription
 - iii. Administration
£272.02 – October
 - iv. Les Blaney
Football pitches grass cut 13/09/2023 - £110
Football pitches and playground grass cut 28/09/2023 - £170.00
Football pitches grass cut 06/10/2023 - £110
Total = £390

- v. PKF Littlejohn LLP (AGAR) - £252.00
- vi. CECA PC Grant see minute point 160/2023 - £1000
- vii. Offices Expenses
Office 365 Annual Payment - £59.99
Bitdefender Anti-Virus Software Annual Payment - £20

RESOLVED: Clerk is authorised to pay these invoices.

	<u>Balance as at</u> <u>12-09-2023</u>	<u>Outgoings</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Closing</u> <u>Balance</u> <u>08/10/2023</u>
Treasurers A/C	£37,185.08	£888.32	£421.37	£36,718.13
Business A/C	£7,079.85	£0.00	£0.00	£7,079.85
Playground Account	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Total PC available cash	£44,264.93	£888.32	£421.37	£43,797.98

ESTIMATED CASH MOVEMENTS 2023/24

2023/24 commitments	Remaining Annual running cost	£5,897.42	
	Contingency	£11,500.00	
	CIL Infrastructure Projects	£16,865.86	
	2023/24 Small Grants	£4,000.00	
	Un presented cheques	£2113.37	
Future Income	VAT owed	£104.91	
Uncommitted cash position			<u>£3526.24</u>

181/2023 Any new matters relating to the parish not included elsewhere on the agenda.

- a. Bank Signatories.

RESOLVED: Cllr. Maddocks to be added as bank signatory and Cllr. Cadden to be removed.

- b. Benches on the Green.

RESOLVED: Cllr. Maddocks to place order for benches and bike rack.

182/ 2023 Date of next meeting.

Members are asked to note the next meeting of Childs Ercall Parish Council is scheduled to be held on Wednesday 15th November 2023 at 7.00pm in the Jubilee Hall.