

## **CHILDS ERCALL PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of Childs Ercall Parish Council held on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2024 in the Jubilee Hall at 7.00p.m.

Present: Cllr. J Maddocks (Chair)  
Cllr. M Hatfield  
Cllr. J Griffin  
Cllr. J Letts  
Cllr. B Sale  
Cllr. R Crookes

Also in attendance:  
Barbara Pearce (Clerk)  
1 Member of the Public

### **156/2024 Apologies for absence**

Cllr. G Barnes  
Cllr. Clifton  
Cllr. Rob Gittins

**RESOLVED: To receive apologies of absence for this meeting**

### **157/2024 Chairman's Welcome**

Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Chair informed of the sad passing of Mrs Joyce Meredith who will be sadly missed. Mrs Meredith worked at Childs Ercall School as dinner lady and secretary from the 1950s to 1980s. She was a member of the committee for CECA at the time of the Hall purchase, and long-standing Parish Councillor.

### **158/2024 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.

### **159/2024 Public Question Time and Participation**

No questions from members of the public.

### **160/2024 Minutes**

**RESOLVED: To accept the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2024 as being correct.**

### **161/2024 Matters arising/action taken from the Minutes not otherwise included in the agenda.**

None.

### **162/2024 Safety in the Parish**

Chair and members of the public continue to monitor situation with overweight vehicles along Crow Lane.

Hedges on Narrow Lane are overgrown and dangerous.

Dangerous driving through the village, particularly large tractors.

**Action: Chair to raise as a priorities under the Local Policing Charter with PCSO Carruthers.**

Discussion on walking from Leafields to village centre which is very dangerous. Suggestion that any development at Furbers should include improvement to footpath access from the development into the village centre, playground, Hall and Club.

**Action: Chair to ask Cllr. Gittins to forward suggestion to relevant department.**

#### **163/2024 Highways and footpaths**

**a. St Michaels/Crow Lane 7.5 tonne weight restriction – on-going management, reporting, enforcement and further options.**

Following last month's discussion regarding compiling evidence of vehicles which disregard the weight restriction including installation of further signage and/or CCTV Chair has sourced 5 x suitable signs to be added to existing weight restriction signage.

Camera obtained and erected. Chair is testing for viability of images with a view to contacting companies. Images also to be added to operation SNAP.

**b. Eaton Road (village part) safety improvements.**

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

Cllr. Barnes has provided a report regarding efficacy of SIDs for councillors to consider.

Cllr. Gittins and Chair have contacted SC regarding the installation of a SID, funded by the PC, without the need to complete a traffic survey at a cost of £800 with no response.

**Action: Chair / Cllr. Gittins to continue to follow-up with Derek Buchanan at SC.**

**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 issues.

**e. Streetlights - Lamp replacements. Dark skies initiative.**

Streetlight at Leafields now repaired. CEPC have 18 streetlights, 4 of which are sodium. EON are carrying out a survey to update the parish inventory which Chair will share once complete.

CEPC working towards reducing electricity consumption by switching to LED lamps and possible part night lighting.

Chair has contacted SC, who confirmed their lighting on Bembows and Steppes Way are already on part night lighting, being off from midnight to 5.30am.

**Action: Confirmation required regarding part night lighting around the parish.**

#### **164/2024 Parish Matters**

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

Aaron & Partners have confirmed the land transfer is now complete and the final account received.

Land and wall to be added to CEPC Asset Register.

Point will now be removed from Agenda.

**b. FTTP/Gigabit roll out in the parish.**

No further update.

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

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Trees doing well. Memorial plaque for Marcus Mackay will be positioned here, plaque is on order.

30 free whips from the Woodland Trust as part of their large organisation carbon offsetting initiative, will arrive in November. Placing TBC, posts and guards will be required. Chair to obtain cover and stakes to a cost not exceeding £100.

No action required with the two trees on the Green.

**d. Best Kept Village Competition (BKVC).**

Communication received from organisers, CEPC have been shortlisted and are waiting for confirmation of outcome.

Chair thanked all the volunteers for their work on the village tidy ups. Volunteer Village Tidy Group considered as an on-going community initiative.

**e. Dog Fouling in the Parish**

New dog bin now in position at the entrance of the concrete track on St Michaels Way. Further signage to be added to encourage usage.

Dog fouling on the football pitches has been reported.

**f. Blocked Footpaths**

Cllr. Letts continues to work with walkers, landowners and SC regarding blocked footpaths. Item to be removed from Agenda as issues are discussed at point 6d.

**g. On-going Parish Meetings in the Hall.**

CECA have now obtained a full licence for Jubilee Hall. Under the Local Government Act (1972) Parish Council Meetings should not be held in a licensed premises unless there is no other suitable alternative in the local area. Alcohol is not served at the time of meetings and no other alternative premises are available.

**RESOLVED: CEPC meetings will continue to be hosted in Jubilee Hall.**

**165/2024**

**Grounds Maintenance/Playground**

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

Cllr. Hatfield / Cllr. Sale to meet contractor to clarify the work required to ensure the path is safe and to rectify the tree root issue.

Grass cutting by K&S Landscapes is on schedule and of good standard. Currently very wet for cutting which will impact on football teams.

**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.**

Order has been placed with Tim Simmons, waiting for confirmation of commencement of work. No further update.

## **166/2024 Parish infrastructure projects – Community Plan**

### **a. On-going maintenance and repairs to assets.**

Inside of Bus Stop requires repair.

**Action: Chair to obtain quote.**

Discussion on condition of benches throughout the parish.

**Action: Chair to inspect 2 x benches at the top of the playing field to assess condition.**

An asset review is undertaken annually to record the PC's assets, age, location and cost at purchase which is submitted with the accounts. PC is proposing to extend this by undertaking a separate review to include a replacement value and risk, for budgeting purposes.

**Action: Cllr. Hatfield continues to work on the review regarding maintenance/risk.**

### **b. Commitment to the football pitches and Clubs.**

New goalposts for the 11x11 and 7x7 are now in place.

5 teams using the pitches in the coming season, matches are on calendar on community website.

Wet weather may impact on viability of matches.

Concern raised that the footprint of 7x7 pitch runs close to neighbouring housing.

Chair continues to monitor.

### **c. Nature Trail, tree planting, conservation, and environment.**

Chair to meet with Shropshire Wildlife Trust w/c 24.10.24 for advice on wildflower planting, signage, use as forest school etc to promote nature trail.

### **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.**

Discussed this meeting: planting (whips), hedge cutting required, LED bulbs and part night lighting strategy.

### **f. Larger community project – Place Plan.**

Place Plan Officer Lucy Roberts.

**Action from last month: Cllr. Gittins to contact Place Plan Officer regarding removing the playground replacement from Place Plan.**

## **167/2024 Advertising and social media/website**

Cllr. Barnes continues to keep website updated, usage remains constant with a good hit rate for the Horse and Dog Show.

Website to provide FOC domain names with .org.uk extensions. Cllr. Barnes managing how this will be achieved.

Cllr. Griffin is working on this month's newsletter.

## **168/2024 Grants and Donations**

**To consider any new applications.**

No new applications.

Small Grants Policy is due for review. Terms to be reviewed, with funding to be considered during budget review.

**Action: Councillors to look at policy with a view to making a resolution at next month's meeting.**

**169/2024 Planning Applications.**

a. New Planning applications.

Received since Agenda was forwarded:

24/03479/FUL – Hill View Hatton

Extension to make comment requested by Chair.

**RESOLVED: CEPC to make no comment.**

Reference: 24/03791/VAR (validated: 02/10/2024)

Address: Ollerton Business Park, Childs Ercall, Market Drayton, Shropshire

Proposal: Variation of Condition 7 (Highways Improvements) of Application Reference Number 23/02475/FUL

Applicant: Mr Glen James

**RESOLVED: PC to make objection. Chair to contact Case Officer for extension to reply.**

b. Existing Applications

i. Withdrawn  
None.

ii. Refused  
None.

iii. Granted  
None.

Any other planning matters.

f. Land Rear of the Birches.

No further update. Due process continues with SC.

g. Eaton on Tern Solar Farm

Reserve matters obtained in April 2024. Chair to continue to monitor.

h. Furbers application – 28 homes

No further update.

**170/2024 To receive reports from Unitary Councillor**

None received.

## 171/2024 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 DD – £194.68 (August 2024)
- II. Administration October - £296.60
- III. K&S Landscapes (cut 10/09) - £282.00
- IV. Nova Football Grant - £500.00
- V. Office Expenses AntiVirus Software - £39.99
- VI. Dog Waste Bin (Re-imbursement James Maddocks) - £113.94
- VII. Rat Killer for rear of Hall (Re-imbursement James Maddocks) - £11.98
- VIII. Aaron & Partners -Land Transfer (final bill) - £420.00

**RESOLVED: Clerk is authorised to pay these invoices.**

### a. Reconciliation

	<u>Balance as at</u> <u>11/09/2024</u>	<u>Outgoings</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Closing Balance</u> <u>07/10/2024</u>
Treasurers A/C	£13,270.16	£873.26	£0.00	£12,396.90
Business A/C	£7,168.99	£0.00	£0.00	£7,168.99
Playground Account	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
95 Day Notice Account	£15,306.94	£0.00	£49.60	£15,356.54
Total PC available cash	<b>£35,746.09</b>	<b>£873.26</b>	<b>£49.60</b>	<b>£34,922.43</b>

### ESTIMATED CASH MOVEMENTS 2024/25

2024/25 commitments	Remaining Annual running cost	£3,463.95	
	2024/25 Grants and Donations	£1,500.00	
	Contingency	£15,000.00	
	Un presented cheques	£1,906.52	
	CIL	£11,910.66	
Future Income	VAT owed	£137.99	
Uncommitted cash position			£1,279.29

The above reconciliation was discussed and there were no questions.

**172/2024 Any new matters relating to the parish not included elsewhere on the agenda.**

Cllr. Sale gave his apologies for the November Meeting.

**173/2024 Date of next meeting.**

Members are asked to note the next meeting of Childs Ercall Parish Council is scheduled to be held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November at 7.00pm in the Jubilee Hall.

