

**EPWELL PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING
Virtual via Zoom
Monday 8th March 2021**

MINUTES

Present: Cllrs

Chris Hurst (Chair)

Gavin Lloyd Thomas

Nicola Rudge

Paul Neal

Cllr G Reynolds

Clerk Jacqui Harris

0 Members of the public

22/21 Apologies - Cllr White

23/21 Approval of minutes of meeting held on Mon January 25th 2021: done

24/21 Registration of interest: none

25/21 Formal announcements from the chair: reminder about Census; what to do on death of an important figure – agreed we should fly a flag at half-mast.

26/21 Public participation : none

27/21 Current and Future Planning Matters

- a. 20/03366/F Bay Tree House Back Lane Epwell - permitted
- b. 20/3588/F Land on Back Lane opposite College Farm – application withdrawn
- c. 21/00534/LB 21/00450/F 20/01510/F 20/01511/LB Rectory Farm House Back Lane Epwell – no response required this evening

28/21 Correspondence

- a. Census on March 21st. On line preferred
- b. Letter from a resident about current use of playing field. Concern that Covid guidance not always followed. A notice reminding users about the rules to be put up in the field.

29/21 Finance: current account discussed and balance shared with the meeting

30/21 Road and highways update

- a. Passing places. Rugmans do not know who created them. They intend to go ahead with the surfaced passing place near the sharp corner on Church Lane. Zoom meeting held with the Rugmans on 1st Feb was constructive.
- b. Salt bins – now filled and some salt left over to be moved to another location or camouflaged

31/21 Verges and areas accessible to public.

- a. Clearing grips yet to be done – **RESOLVED** to inspect where grips needed attention and organise working party.
- b. Grazing cattle on verges discussed. **RESOLVED** to ask if the fencing in place on verges on road to Mill were still needed and if not ask that they be removed.

- c. Encouragement of wild flower areas on some verges discussed. The topic would be on the agenda of the next meeting.

32/21 Wildlife and habitats in the village. Meeting held on 25th Feb. Notes had been sent to members and are available on request from Chair. He has written to CDC about Covid related grant.

33/21 Playing Field update. Sections of the fencing needs replacing or repair. **RESOLVED** to inspect, repair small scale problems, order replacement panels and research use of alternative more durable material to wood

34/21 Poo bins: Another to be delivered in the next 28 days.

35/21 Community Emergency Plan. Draft circulated to members for comment. Chair gave a review of the plan. It is for further work and discussion, and is to be placed on the next agenda.

36/21 Village communication

- a. EPC email network. Being considered. Details yet to be worked out. On next agenda.
- b. Website. Draft of pages to be sent to members. Meetings planned. Help has been secured.

37/21 First Aid in the village

James Clarke has offered to organise a 2 hr basic First Aid session including use of defib, in perhaps July. 12 people max. **Everything depends** on what activities are allowed by that time.

38/21 Heavy large vehicles going through the Square and going down narrow lanes around the church

- a. Some of the problem is traffic on its way to Sands Farm. Chair reported back on contact with Rugmans, who had tried and failed to get a change in post code. The aim was to guide visitors to Sands Farm via the end of Church Lane opposite Quarry Farm rather than through the village. Sands Farm is at present in OX15 6LD which is in the village. The code for the area around Quarry Farm would be better but Royal Mail raised difficulties. Chair will take this up with Royal Mail and with Navteq who sell information to sat nav companies.
- b. Other members of the Council would investigate how signs and posts might be used to discourage large heavy vehicles from attempting to exit the Square via Church Lane by Corner House.

39/21 Dates of next meetings. Second Monday of alternate months is being trialled. 10th May, 12th July 2021

Later decision: next meeting will be on Tuesday 4th May, via Zoom, and will be the Annual Meeting of the Council.