

EPWELL PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 16TH JANUARY 2023
IN EPWELL VILLAGE HALL AT 8PM

Councillors Present

Gavin Lloyd-Thomas (Chair), Paul Neal, Matthew Platt and Nicola Rudge

Christine Coles (Parish Clerk) and one villager

23/01. To receive apologies for absence

None.

23/02. To receive Declarations of Interest under the Council's Code of Conduct relating to business on the agenda

None.

23/03. To approve the minutes of the meeting of 17th October 2022

The minutes were approved and signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

23/04. Public participation session

A villager spoke about a welcome pack. This is currently being looked at by the Parish Council. Councillors discussed whether to include maps and names of houses there is already a map on the CDC website.

23/05. To note any matters arising from the minutes not included on this agenda

Repair of play equipment following inspection report – This is ongoing.

Steps at the bottom of Ambleside – There is no further update from the Countryside Service.

23/06. To discuss funding repairs for the church flagpole

The flagpole is an asset belonging to the Parish Council and should be replaced as its rotten. Cllr George Reynolds has money in his Councillor Priority Fund which can be allocated for the project.

Action: The Parish Clerk to submit a Cllr Priority fund application form to OCC for £1500.00.

23/07. To discuss the snow and ice and actions that either the Parish Council or OCC could have taken to enhance road safety

There are salt bins within the 30mph limit which residents can use. A resident had emailed before Christmas asking for a bin between White House and Crofts Barn. This is a fast road but outside of the 30mph limit and under the control of OCC Highways when it comes to gritting. It also links up with Sun Rising Hill which is dangerous.

Action: The Parish Clerk to get a price for an additional bin to be placed by Sands Farm.

23/08. To discuss the training of the 'Fixmystreet Super User'

The new user could not be trained before Christmas and is waiting for a new training date.

23/09. To receive an update on the progress of a village whatsapp group

A village whatsapp group is being set up and there is a QR code to scan in the next Echo. There will be guidelines to use the group but it will not be a substitute for the Facebook page. Usage will be monitored over time. The group will be administered by Gavin Lloyd-Thomas and Toby Brook.

23/10. Financial Report

To receive the cashbook and bank reconciliation

The current bank balance is £13,614.99.

The following payments were approved under statutory powers:-

£50.00 to Royal British Legion (donation)

£295.20 to N Prickett (grass cutting)

To set the precept for 2023/24

There are jobs to do in the village and some general costs will increase such as grass cutting, dog bin emptying, salary rise for the Clerk and insurance. It was agreed to set aside £1000.00 for village maintenance jobs that can be done soon. It was agreed to increase the precept by 5% and set it at £5760.00 for 2023/24.

Action: The Parish Clerk to notify CDC. Cllr Rudge to get a price for one tent which the Parish Council could own and use at future events.

23/11. To receive an update on planning

A decision notice had been received on an older application.

- 22/01335/LB, Remedial work covering flood in 2021 at Yarn Hill Cottage, Birds Lane. Granted by CDC.

23/12. To receive Councillors Reports

OCC have secured enough new trees and have the budget to plant a tree in each parish. Their commitment is to plant in the winter of 22/23. They have suggested the Green which already has trees, houses nearby and poor drainage.

Action: The Parish Clerk to suggest the play area instead.

The Coronation of King Charles III in May was briefly discussed. An appeal will be sent out on the village whatsapp group. It will be a March agenda item.

A huge vote of thanks was given to the Castle family for donating the Christmas tree.

23/13. To note date and time of next meeting

Monday 13th March 2023 at 8pm.

Meeting Closed 9.00pm.