

**EPWELL PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**HELD ON MONDAY 11<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2024**  
**IN EPWELL VILLAGE HALL AT 8PM**

Councillors Present

Matthew Platt (Chairman), Peter Gibson, Nicola Rudge and Norman White

Christine Coles (Parish Clerk), County Cllr George Reynolds, District Cllr Chris Brant and one villager

**24/77. To receive apologies for absence**

Cllr Brook (personal)

**24/78. To receive Declarations of Interest under the Council's Code of Conduct relating to business on the agenda**

No interests were declared.

**24/79. To approve the minutes of the meetings of 16<sup>th</sup> September and 7<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

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

**24/80. Public participation session**

A villager was at the meeting to talk about flooding. There have been many challenges at the end of Back Lane near Birds Lane. One matter was resolved by Thames Water. One gully is blocked and one has been flowing continuously for four months. There is another blockage near the new 20mph sign caused either by the sign installation or an oak tree. A second gully compounds the problem. Highways have been out and put cameras down. All three entrances to his property are threatened. He personally wanted to thank Artur Mielczarek for his efforts both in identifying the issues and in his initial efforts to resolve them. Also that his hope/request is that Highways take further action to clear and repair the Gully between points 2 & 4 and confirm that the gully is clear between points 4 & 5 using their video/camera technology.

*Action: The Parish Clerk to contact Highways.*

The Chair noted that three properties had experienced flooding issues. During heavy storms the rain misses the gullies. The Parish Council will continue to liaise with Highways when gullies are blocked.

District Councillor Brant arrived at 8.15pm after attending another council meeting. He has lived in Hanwell for ten years and been a local District Councillor for six months. He has a previous career in Local Government although not in this area and he is a Town Councillor here. The Chair welcomed him to the meeting. Cllr Brant noted that the draft Local Plan will be out for consultation next month.

**24/81. To note any matters arising from the minutes not included on this agenda**

- The new parking sign for The Square has been ordered.
- Chris Hurst has agreed to be the Footpath Warden.
- Cllr White is collecting materials for the repairs in the play area.
- The Chair has spoken to the villager about the pavilion roof repair.

**24/82. To discuss recent fly tipping incidents**

There have been a couple of fly tipping incidents around the village recently. Cllr Brant noted how good CDC are good at responding to fly tipping and asked to be copied in to reports.

**24/83. To receive an update on the broken footpath bridge**

The broken footpath bridge was reported by Cllr Rudge. A temporary repair has been done and it will be replaced in two years time.

**24/84. Financial Report**

*To receive the cashbook and bank reconciliation*

The current bank balance in the Lloyds account is £15,726.51.

*The following payments were approved under statutory powers:-*

- £306.72 to P Gibson (defibrillator parts)
- £36.00 to Geosphere Ltd (mapping software)
- £53.88 to P Gibson (defibrillator pads)
- £376.80 to N Prickett (cutting July, August and September)
- £200.77 to CDC (dog bin emptying)
- £35.00 to M Platt (purchase of grit bin)
- £50.00 (Purchase of poppy wreath)

*To note the Pay Award for the Parish Clerk in line with the Local Government Services Pay Agreement 2024/25 - This has been approved and is applicable to the Parish Clerk on SCP 12, to be back dated to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024, equivalent of 63p per hour.*

*To agree the purchase of the Christmas Tree*

It was agreed to purchase a Christmas tree to the value of £100.00. The Parish Council agreed to purchase a tree this year from Warwick Trees. They would like to thank the Castle family for their past donations.

**24/85. To receive an update on planning**

Older

- *24/00230/OUT, Outline planning permission for the conversion of an agricultural barn into residential use with all matters reserved except for access including landscaping, upgrading of the current access route and a new agricultural access on OS Parcel 6935 South of Parish Boundary and North of Epwell Grounds Farm. Granted by CDC.*
- *23/03608/OUT, Outline planning permission for the conversion of an agricultural barn into residential use with all matters reserved except for access and including upgrading of vehicular access, landscaping and associated works on OS Parcel 3043 South of Parish Boundary and East of Epwell Road. Granted by CDC.*
- *24/01520/F, Demolition of timber garage and erection of new garage with games room about at 1 The Close. Withdrawn.*

**24/86. To receive the following correspondence**

- Cotswolds National Landscape, Cotswolds National Landscape Management Plan Consultation. Cllr Brant asked to be copied in the response from the Parish Council.
- CDC, Review of Cherwell District Polling Districts. The village hall is adequate.
- Villager, Faulty street light. A faulty light is already on FMS. The Parish Clerk to check FMS and provide the exact location.

**24/87. To receive Councillors Reports**

Donna Boyles was at the meeting to discuss the play park. Work is ongoing. A working party will fix the equipment. The roof on the pavilion was not finished but work is in hand. A new wooden bench will be ordered. A QR code was discussed for donations. The villager present offered to help set that up.

**24/88. To note meeting dates for 2025**

13<sup>th</sup> January, 24<sup>th</sup> March, 15<sup>th</sup> May, 14<sup>th</sup> July, 8<sup>th</sup> September and 10<sup>th</sup> November

Meeting Closed 8.46pm.

DRAFT