

**MINUTUES OF ETCHILHAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY,
30 MAY 2023 IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 18.30 HRS**

Present: Mr. P. Hanson (Chairman), Mrs. L. Clark (Vice Chairman), Mr. J. Nash (RFO), Mr. R. Smith and Mrs. C. Wimble (Clerk)

In attendance: Mr. C. Moore

- 1 Appointments of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer/Responsible Financial Officer, Internal Auditor and Clerk
 - Mr. P. Hanson was elected Chairman (proposer Mr. Nash and seconder Mrs. Clark)
 - Mrs. L. Clark was elected Vice-Chairman (proposer Mr. Hanson and seconder Mr. Nash)
 - Mr. J. Nash was elected Treasurer/Responsible Financial Officer (proposer Mr. Hanson and seconder Mrs. Clark)
 - Mrs. C. Wimble was elected as Clerk (proposer Mr. Hanson and seconder Mrs. Clark)
 - Mr. J. Garland as previously agreed was confirmed as Internal Auditor.

- 2 All officers declared their Acceptance of Office as per item 1. Mr. Smith declared his Acceptance of Office as Councillor. Mrs. C. Wimble was elected as Councillor – proposer Mr. P. Hanson and seconder Mrs. L. Clark. Mrs. C. Wimble declared her Acceptance of Office as Councillor. All officers signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

- 3 All Councillors declared their acceptance of the Code of Conduct and signed the relevant form.

- 4 Register of Councillors' Interests – Mrs. C. Wimble to complete and return to Wiltshire Council.

- 5 Declarations of Interests and Dispensations Requests: None

- 6 Apologies for absence: None

- 7 Treasurer's Report

- A It was reported that the bank balance at 28 May 2023 was £4814.07 and the following were payments ratified since 20 February 2023:

		£
27 Feb	Mark Goddard (grass cutting)	420.00
6 March	DPR Environmental Inspection	200.00
21 March	CPRE DD	60.00
29 March	Avon Trophies	370.80
3 April	Community First SO	40.00
11 April	PC Hanson	59.16
14 April	Devizes Wood Products	250.00
15 May	1&1 Internet Website	10.80
15 May	WALC Subscription	62.02
15 May	Mrs L. Clark (Plaque)	130.00
16 May	Mark Goddard (grass cutting)	420.00
	Total	2,022.78

- B AGAR—all items below were considered, approved by resolution where necessary, and signed by the Chairman:

- i List of expenditure over £100, including invoices were submitted

- ii Register of Assets
 - iii Risk Register, analysis, and safety report from Mr Roberts.
 - iv The Internal Auditor's Report, a clean bill of health
 - v Accounts, variances, and bank reconciliation
 - vi Annual Governance Statement by Council Resolution (proposer Mrs. L. Clark and seconder Mr. R. Smith)
 - vii Annual Accounting Statements (proposer Mr. P. Hanson and seconder Mr. R. Smith)
 - viii Dates for public inspection of accounts to be published by the RFO were agreed (proposer Mr. P. Hanson and seconder Mr. R. Smith). Mr. J. Nash to put on notice board.
 - ix Exemption Certificate for Councils with accounts under £25,000 agreed (proposer Mrs. L. Clark and seconder Mr. R. Smith). The Clerk to send to the external auditors.
- 8 Appointments to outside bodies:
 Devizes Area Board - Mr Hanson attended the meeting held on 6 March, 2023. He reported an interesting meeting although generally issues for Devizes. He would attend when there were items concerning Etchilhampton.
 LHFIG –same as above. Problems gaining access but if relevant can sign in via zoom.
 No grants for improvement. Grants were given for specific projects such as extensions of footpaths. In Etchilhampton the issues were maintenance rather than new works or improvements.
- 9 Approval of the Minutes of the last meeting. The Minutes of the last meeting held on 27 February, 2023 were approved and signed by the Chairman.
- 10 Reports of Meetings
 Proposed Gateway station – P. Hanson, L. Clark, C. Wimble, and A. Wimble attended a meeting in the Corn Exchange regarding the planned Devizes Gateway Station.
 Network Rail reported the costs were too great to justify as a new station. However, 12 months were granted to put together a proposal to see if this might be part of future rail improvements for Wiltshire.
- 11 King Charles III Coronation
 P. Hanson reported the Coronation celebrations in Etchilhampton had gone very well. Over 100 people had attended the BBQ on the village green which was followed by a flower festival and tea in the village hall which made over £600 for the Devizes Food Bank. P. Hanson had emailed his thanks to the organisers of this event and their team. There were still a few mugs to be sold and Mrs. Clark would put a message on the village WhatsApp - £5 per mug.
- 12 Matters Arising
 Highways and flooding: Since the last meeting it had been very wet and there had been much flooding in the area. P. Hanson and L. Clark had no response from Highways and put this down to pressure from other urgent enquiries in Wiltshire. L. Clark to register Shortland's Corner as nothing had yet been done regarding drainage and pot holes. P. Hanson confirmed that Wiltshire would not be completing their works until Enforcement had made sure that the farmer concerned had completed his repairs.
 Parish Steward's jobs: the new Parish Steward had not appeared in May. If there was no appearance on 7 June, they would recontact Highways. P. Hanson stressed that the PS could only do minor jobs like strimming, drainage clearing and filling minor pot

holes. A list of jobs was discussed including blocked drains at the bottom of Etchilhampton Hill, broken footpath sign by Mrs. Robert's house, footpath drainage and clearance, potholes around the village and especially outside the church. A parishioner reported that All Cannings and Stert had not seen a Parish Steward for months. P. Hanson confirmed he had the list of potholes and areas for the Parish Steward to cover provided by the Parishioner. Wessex Water had confirmed that the clean water drainage was not their concern. The last Parish Steward had uncovered a further rainwater drain which would be uncovered.

13 Questions/Points from the Public

Mrs. Clark requested that the noticeboards be updated to include Parish Email and website address as well as phone numbers of Councillors.

A parishioner enquired whether putting ash on footpaths was a wise idea. P. Hanson confirmed this was clinker and therefore perfectly acceptable. The question of the stile was raised again. It was reported that Mr. Garland was also in touch with the Council regarding all footpath problems.

14 Correspondence and Consultations

Noted.

15 Planning Applications

No applications received since the last meeting.

16 Other Business

- Agenda for Parish Meeting on 30 May 2023 at 7.45pm was agreed.
- Community Emergency Contacts. It was agreed that P. Hanson and L. Clark would be the village contact numbers.
- £250 was agreed for expenses incurred by the Clerk.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 19.30.