

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Ewyas Harold Group Parish Council
held on Tuesday 7th December 2004
In the Memorial Hall at 7.30 p.m.

Present

Councillor Mrs E Overstall (Dulas) in the chair
Councillor Revd L Rickards
Councillor G Sprackling
Councillor D Harries
Councillor J Middle
Councillor P Sheen (Rowlstone)
Councillor Mrs M Williams (Rowlstone)
Councillor Mrs J Addis
Councillor R Weaver
Councillor W Preece (Dulas)
Councillor Mrs M Tovey
The Clerk

1. **Apologies for Absence** Councillor P Jinman

2. **Declaration of Interest** Councillor Mrs E Overstall declared an interest in item 14.2
(personal acquaintance of Mr J Scudamore)

3. **Minutes**
The minutes of the ordinary meeting of the council held on Tuesday 2nd November 2004 were approved without amendment

4. **Matters for report (Not covered by separate agenda items)**
 - 4.1. **Access to Ewyas Harold Common**
A meeting of the Common Society is still to be arranged. No further communications have been received.
Resolved
That this is noted

 - 4.2. **Precept 2005/2006**
It was agreed that the village website would be funded from the 2004/2005 budget. The Clerk is to speak to Mr David Homer (HC IT) in January to see if any financial help is available from Herefordshire Council.

ACTION CLERK

The remaining capital projects agreed were:

- Safety Grass surfacing around the roundabout (£1200).
Proposed Councillor J Middle
Seconded Councillor R Weaver

Resolved

That the Clerk would obtain quotes for Safety Grass matting

ACTION CLERK

Post meeting note

Safety tiles 1.5 metre square - £31.50 + VAT (inc carriage)

Fixing charge £20 + VAT per tile

Therefore assuming 6 metre square coverage

Supply only £504 + VAT

Supply and fit £824 + VAT

- Creation of an embankment slide (£750). The bank would be created in 2005 and, after a 12 month stabilisation period, the slide itself would be installed with funds to be identified in the 2006/2007 precept.
Proposed Councillor R Weaver
Seconded Councillor Revd L Rickards

It was also agreed that £250 should be identified for training and software for improvements in the editing of the Newsletter, together with £110 for general training of Councillors

The election costs were set at £250 as a one third allowance towards the 2007 election costs, as advised by Herefordshire Council. The Clerk was unable to verify the £750 recommended by HALC for the 2005 costs.

The final figure for the 2005/2006 precept was agreed at £14,769.

Proposed Councillor J Middle

Seconded Councillor R Weaver

Carried unanimously

Resolved

That this figures should be sent to Herefordshire Council as the precept request for 2005/2006.

ACTION CLERK

4.3. Level of Expenditure (Community Charge) within Herefordshire Council

Report from the LAF meeting held at Peterchurch on 17th November was made in the current Newsletter.

Resolved

That this is noted

4.4. A465

Following the Joint Parishes Working Party on the A465 held on Monday July 19th a letter was sent to Mr Wheeler. The Highways Agency has responded to the points raised but several of the responses in the letter were challenged. Copies of the letter have been sent to members of the working party for discussion at their next meeting.

Resolved

That this item is moved to the supplementary list.

4.5. **Manhole Cover in road – U74428.**

Complete copies of the updated sewer records for Ewyas Harold have now been received. Despite being reported on 3 occasions and a site visit organised, the work in U74428 is still outstanding.

Resolved

That the Clerk would send a final letter to Welsh Water stating that would be liable for any injuries resulting from their failure to carry out this work in reasonable time.

ACTION

CLERK

Resolved

That this item is moved to the supplementary list.

4.6. **Trees in Dulas Lane**

The trees in Dulas Lane continue to lean over the lane. They have been inspected by a qualified arboriculturalist and one has been identified for pruning. No other action has yet been taken

Resolved

That this item is moved to the supplementary list.

4.7. **Trappe House Pitch – slow road marking**

At the site meeting with Councillors Mrs J Addis and R Weaver, Andrew Jenkins of HC Highways agreed that warning signs would be erected to warn drivers of the lack of a footway between The Poplars and Gilberts Wood. A request was made for the provision of a footway on the C1221 between Ambleside and the B4347, and on the B4347 between Gilberts Wood and The Poplars. At the same site meeting Mr Jenkins agreed to investigate the hedge outside The Firs and also to undertake a survey of pedestrians and traffic in this area. Despite a letter from Mr Jenkins confirming these actions, it was noted that no work of any kind had been undertaken.

Resolved

That the Clerk contacts Mr Jenkins to request the timetable for these agreed actions.

ACTION

CLERK

4.8. **Councillor Vacancy**

Councillor Derek Harries was welcomed to his first meeting as Councillor for Ewyas Harold.

4.9. **Parish Plan**

Councillor Mrs E Overstall reported that contributions from Rowlestone and Dulas had been drafted and that Llancillo would be contacted in the near future. A questionnaire would be going out in January in conjunction with Herefordshire Council.

The Parish Plan would also be posted on the village website for comments.

Resolved

That this is noted

4.10. **RoSPA Report**

4.10.1. **Removal of the Slide**

Golden Valley Construction has now completed this work.

4.10.2. **Roundabout**

The quotes received for a wetpour surface were deemed too expensive. Therefore, given the low fall height, it was decided to install safety grass. See item 4.2

4.10.3. **Slide Replacement**

This will be replaced by a bank slide. See item 4.2

Resolved

That this item be deleted

4.11. Hill Lane

The Lengthsman (Martin Roper) has agreed to include removal of fallen and dangerous branches in his winter work so that this lane can remain walkable. At a field visit on November 6th it was decided to further aid access for walkers, by improving drainage where the footpath crosses this lane at the Rowlestone end. Letters have been received from HC agreeing that these proposals can be funded using Lengthsman money. The Clerk read out a letter from Ms Julie Lowe supporting the intended improvements to this lane.

Resolved

That this is noted

4.12. Footpath to Spring Field Cottages (? Continuation of EH19)

Councillor Preece reported that the steel reinforcing on the bridge over Dulas Brook is rusting and in need of repair. Despite re-reporting this work to the Footpaths Officer in October this work remains unscheduled.

Resolved

That the Clerk contacts the Footpaths Officer again.

ACTION

CLERK

4.13. Elmdale Sewers

Herefordshire Housing have now completed their inspection and were unable to identify any fault with the system. It was decided that as the Council were unable to pursue this any further, local residents needed to be aware that they would have to monitor the situation.

Resolved

That this item be deleted

4.14. Dog Fouling

4.14.1. Dog Fouling Notices. The Clerk has received a verbal quotation of £20 per sign plus £15 set up fee. Besides the 3 signs for Callowside and Elmdale it was identified that one was required for the Memorial Hall plus a fixing post.

Resolved

That the Clerk places an order for these signs with Herefordshire Council.

ACTION CLERK

4.14.2. Designation of Land. The Council has decided to apply for designation of the Recreation Ground and Memorial Ground under the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996. This would then make it an offence not to clear up after your dog Memorial Ground.

Resolved

That this noted.

4.15. Llancillo Signs

The Clerk was assured by HC that the outstanding signs would be delivered in November.

Resolved

That the Clerk confirms whether the signs have been delivered.

ACTION CLERK

4.16. Flooding at Dulas Brook

The Environment Agency has now identified the study undertaken by W Atkins in 2001 to look at possible improvements to the flow of the Brook and a copy will be sent to the Council. The copy of the study is still outstanding

Resolved

That the Clerk re-requests this report from the Environment Agency.

ACTION CLERK

4.17. Powercuts

It was agreed that the Clerk contacts Central Networks, the current electricity distributor, to report the problems highlighted by Bob + Angela Curtis at the Post Office. It was noted that the latest Newsletter carried the telephone number of Central Networks so that individuals could contact them over their specific supply problems.

Resolved

That this is noted

ACTION CLERK

4.18. Village Artmarkers

Councillor Mrs M Tovey reported that EHGPC had selected a stone sculptor for this project, which will start in 2006. Further details can be found in the latest Newsletter. It is hoped that any setup costs will be met by way of a small funds grant and the application will be made in the next few days. A letter from the project organisers, confirming details and dates, will be circulated to Councillors with these minutes

Resolved

That this is noted

ACTION CLERK

4.19. Potholes on Rowlestone Road

Herefordshire Council have been made aware of the potholes in the Rowlestone Road outside Pontrilas Garden Centre and the work has been completed.

Resolved

That this item be deleted

4.20. Overgrown Hedge

The Clerk has written to the owner of the privet hedge outside Temple Bar Inn to request that it be cut back and the work has been completed.

Resolved.

That this item be deleted

4.21. Obstructions outside Dog Inn

Herefordshire Council have confirmed that they will be taking action through their legal department to remove the obstacles on the public highway. The Legal Services Department will keep EHGPC informed of their progress.

Resolved

That this is noted

5. Local Security Matters

There were no issues raised under this section

6. Correspondence (Not covered by separate agenda items)

6.1. Countryside Agency

Forms to claim Parish Plan Grant

6.2. DCM

Brochure and written quote for play surface

Resolved

That this item was noted in 4.10.2

- 6.3. Alliance+ Leicester Notice of new telephone banking service
6.4. Andrew Jenkins Acknowledgement of agreements re site meeting at Trappe House Pitch

Resolved

That this item was noted in 4.7

- 6.5. Herefordshire Partnership Agenda for Rural Transport Meeting 16/11/04
6.6. Herefordshire Partnership Notice of working conference 17/11/04
6.7. Community First Notice of cancellation of AGM on 25/11/04
6.8. HC Policy + Community Dates and Venues for Local Area Forums in January (Poster to follow)
6.9. HC Policy + Community Art + Craft Society Exhibition 13/11/04 to 4/12/04
Paperwork given to Councillor G Sprackling

6.10. HC Policy + Community Travel Magazine – Issue No 3
6.11. HC Secretary + Solicitor Amendment No 6 to Herefordshire Flood Plan
6.12. Herefordshire in Bloom Offer to talk on the competition and its benefits

Resolved

That EHGPC did not wish to take up this offer

- 6.13. HC Environment Acknowledgement of reported potholes on Rowlestone Road

Resolved

That this item was noted in 4.19

- 6.14. Mr Stephen Gray Acknowledgement of grant to Ewyas Harold PCC
6.15. Sutcliffe Play Refusal to quote for play area surface

Resolved

That this item was noted in 4.10.2

- 6.16. Mr + Mrs Tomlinson Confirmation of booking requirements for 24th July 2005

Resolved

That this was noted

- 6.17. HC Environment Response to request for site visit to Hill Lane

Resolved

That this was noted in item 4.11

- 6.18. HC Environment Trees – Draft Guidance for Developers -respond by 31/12/04
Paperwork given to Councillor Mrs E Overstall

- 6.19. HC Property Services Plans for Dog Act application

Resolved

That this was noted in item 4.14.2

- 6.20. Mr Derek Harries Acceptance of Parish Councillor post
6.21. Alliance + Leicester Telephone banking details
6.22. HC Environment Confirmation of agreements reached at site visit of Hill Lane

Resolved

That this was noted in item 4.11

- 6.23. DCE Notice of Building and Landscape seminar at Hereford
1/12/04
6.24. Learning + Skills Council Strategic Area Review (consultation period 11/11/04 to

7/1/05)

Resolved

That this was noted

- 6.25. Bob+Angela Curtis Powercut loggings (email communication)

Resolved

That this was noted in item 4.17

- 6.26. HC Environment Re: Hedge adjacent to The Firs

Resolved

That this was noted in item 4.7

- 6.27. Mrs Beaumont Concern over road between EH/Longtown

Resolved

That the Clerk should thank Mrs Beaumont for her letter and assure her that the Council would be liaising with Herefordshire Council over this issue

ACTION CLERK

- 6.28. HVA Together – Issue No 6

- 6.29. HC Environment Dog Inn - Obstruction of Highway

Resolved

That this was noted in item 4.21

- 6.30. HC Policy +Community Village Artmakers Project

Resolved

That this was noted in item 4.18

- 6.31. Wicksteed Brochure on safety grass

- 6.32. Community First Notice of rearranged AGM – 20TH December 2004

- 6.33. Community First Annual Review + Accounts 2003-2004

- 6.34. West Mercia Police Newsbeat - November 2004

Resolved

That this was circulated with the current Agenda

- 6.35. Community First Newline - Issue 55 December 2004

- 6.36. CPRE Fieldwork – December 2004

- 6.37. Herefordshire CAB Request for donation together with Annual Report + Finance Statement 2003/2004

Resolved

That the Council did not feel able to make a donation

- 6.38. HC Environment Herefordshire UDP – Proposed changes December 2004
(respond by 13/1/05)

Resolved

It was noted that Mr Mark Ponting was dealing with this issue on behalf of EHGPC

- 6.39. HC County Secretary +Solicitor Request for confirmation of Councillors in post

Resolved

That this was noted and the Clerk should make the appropriate returns

ACTION CLERK

- 6.40. HC Fran White List of recommended suppliers of play equipment
HC Jane Phillips Herefordshire UDP – Notes of the Pre-Inquiry Meeting

Resolved

It was noted that Mr Mark Ponting was dealing with this issue on behalf of EHGPC

6.41. Ms Julie Lowe Letter (dated 12/8/04) re Hill LANE
A reply has already been sent by the Editor of the Newsletter to whom this letter was sent
Resolved
That this was noted.

6.42. HC S+D Partnership Herefordshire Safety + Drug Audit
6.43. HC County Secretary + Solicitor Freedom of Information Act (identified contact)
Resolved
That Clerk should be the identified contact for EHGPC

ACTION CLERK

6.44. Herefordshire Partnership Funding Directory – 13TH Edition November 2004
6.45. Herefordshire Partnership Quarterly Economic Report – November 2004
6.46. HC Environment Christmas Drink Drive Awareness Poster
Paperwork given to Councillor G Sprackling

6.47. HC Policy + Community HC Schedule of Meetings
6.48. Mark Ponting Letter re Unitary Development Plan Enquiry.
A copy of this letter has already been circulated to involved parties and it will also be included in the next Newsletter.
Councillor Middle highlighted the considerable work that Mark Ponting was undertaking and it was agreed that Mr Ponting should be invited to speak to the Councillors.
Resolved
That the Clerk would invite Mr Ponting to a future Parish Meeting.

ACTION CLERK

7. Lengthsman Scheme

7.1. Lengthsman work undertaken in September - October.
Still to be advised
Resolved
That this is noted

8. Financial Report

8.1. Payments for approval

| | | |
|---|---|---------|
| HALC – Toolkit for Councillor (Councillor Overstall training) | £ | 25.00 |
| HALC - Rights of Way (Councillor Overstall training) | £ | 15.00 |
| Jarvis Services – Roadsweep July 04 (Lengthsman) | £ | 35.25 |
| R E Daniel - Grass cutting March- October 2004 | £ | 1182.07 |
| Golden Valley Construction – Removal of slide | £ | 323.12 |
| Clerk salary - Sept-Nov | £ | 820.28 |
| Clerk postage | £ | 15.72 |
| Clerk travel | £ | 25.25 |
| Black Hill Computer Software - EHGPC Website construction | £ | 893.00 |
| Ray Rose - Clerk Handover and Preparing Accounts 2003/2004 | £ | 500.00 |
| Collins Services – Supply of Xmas Lights etc. | £ | 401.76 |
| Dog Inn - Electricity for Xmas Lights | £ | 60.00 |

8.2. Balances as at 22nd November 2004

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------|----------------|
| NatWest Current account | £ | 52.00 |
| Unpresented cheques | £ | nil |
| Cheques to be credited | £ | 40.00 |
| NatWest Business Reserve | £ | 5103.21 |
| Alliance + Leicester Current account | £ | 15.00 |
| Alliance + Leicester Deposit account | £ | 4213.10 |
| Total cash assets | £ | 9423.31 |

8.3. Lengthsman Scheme

| | | |
|---|----------|-----------------|
| Balance (6 th November 2004) | £ | 1,458.15 |
| Unpresented cheques | £ | nil |
| Balance available but not yet claimed | £ | 1,061.25 |
| Administration charge payable | £ | 424.50 |
| Total still available in current year (allocation £4,245.00) | £ | 2,094.90 |

8.4. Payments received

| | | |
|---|---|-------|
| Coningsby Lodge – Hire of Sports Field + Pavilion 24/7/05 | £ | 40.00 |
|---|---|-------|

Resolved

That the financial statement is accepted and payments should be made
Carried unanimously

9. Planning

9.1. Application number DCSW2004/2638/L

Notification of planning permission

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Site | Llancillo Hall Farm, Llancillo. NP7 8HH |
| Description | External work comprising re-surfacing planters and screening. |

Resolved

That this is noted

9.2. Application number DCSW2004/4123/F

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Site: | Pen y Lan, Rowlestone, Herefordshire. HR2 0DL |
| Description: | Change of use of agricultural barn into dwelling |
| Application Type: | Full |
| Applicant: | Trustees of Kentchurch Children's Trust |
| | Agent |
| | Berringtons |
| | The Vallets |
| | Wormbridge |
| | HR2 9BA |

The Group Parish Council have no objections to this application

10. Road Maintenance and Related Matters

10.1. C1213 – Extension of 30mph limit

—The paperwork was passed to HC's legal department on 29th November 2004. They will

be placing a notice in the Hereford Times to allow time for any objections to be raised. It is hoped that, assuming no objections, the signs will be moved 4-6 weeks after the deadline set by this notice.

Resolved

That this item be moved to the supplementary list.

10.2. Rowlestone Village Centre

The problem of mud on the roads was raised, and it was decided that the verges should be tidied up by the Lengthsman and a road sweeper be scheduled to clean the roads.

Resolved

That the Clerk would arrange for the sweeper to visit Rowlestone.

That the Clerk would write to HC to clarify any byelaws dealing with mud on the road.

That the Clerk would raise an order with the Lengthsman to tidy the verges within Rowlestone.

ACTION CLERK

10.3. Ditch Cleaning Dulas

___Councillor Preece highlighted the problem of flooding caused by a blocked ditch on the rise beyond Dulas Church.

Resolved

That the Clerk writes to HC to request that this ditch be cleared.

ACTION

CLERK

11. Footpaths

11.1. Stile on EH19

Councillor Preece reported a broken stile between Springfield cottages and the bridge needing repair over Dulas Brook.

Resolved

That the Clerk reports this problem to the Footpaths Officer

ACTION

CLERK

12. Recreation Ground

12.1. Monthly Audit

There were no issues raised under this section

12.2. Car Park

A verbal quote has been received from Nick Eynon for £250+VAT to renew the gravel in the car park.

Resolved

That the Clerk should place an order for this work to be undertaken.

ACTION CLERK

13. Parish Newsletter

13.1.Christmas 2004 Edition

The draft version presented at this meeting was passed for publication.

14. Matters for Further Discussion

14.1. Dates of Parish Meetings

The dates for 2005 were agreed and are given at the end of these minutes

14.2. Lifebuoy Charitable Trust

The proposed drug rehabilitation unit at Pontrilas is not to be opened as Mr John Scudamore has now withdrawn his support. The meeting for Parish Councillors with the Lifebuoy Trust scheduled for December 9th will therefore no longer be taking place.

Resolved

That this is noted

14.3. Parish Website

Councillors were reminded that the draft form could be viewed under www.ewyasharoldgpc.org.uk/dev .

14.4. Memorial Hall Social Evening

Councillor J Middle reported that the Memorial Hall Committee were having a social evening on December 28th and would like to invite Councillors and their partners to attend.

Meeting closed at 9.40pm

Chairman

Date

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| NEXT MEETING | Tuesday January 4 th 2005 |
| Meetings for remainder of 2005 | |
| | January 4 th 2005 |
| | February 1 st 2005 |
| | March 1 st 2005 |
| | April 5 th 2005 |
| | May 10 th 2005 (not first Tuesday) |
| | June 2 nd 2005 |
| | July 5 th 2005 |
| | August 9 th (not first Tuesday) |
| | September 6 th |
| | October 4 th |
| | November 1 st |
| | December 6 th |

*A Very Happy Christmas and
Prosperous New Year*