

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Ewyas Harold Group Parish Council**  
**held on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 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 P Jinman  
Councillor J Middle  
Councillor P Sheen  
Councillor Mrs M Williams (Rowlstone)  
Councillor Mrs J Addis  
Councillor R Weaver  
Councillor Mrs M Tovey  
The Clerk

In attendance:

Councillor J. B. Williams (Herefordshire Council)

1. **Apologies for Absence**           Councillors W Preece, W Lloyd
2. **Declaration of Interest**       Councillors Mrs J Addis, Mrs M Tovey and G Sprackling  
(members of Ewyas Harold PCC) declared an interest in item 6.31
3. **Minutes**

The minutes of the ordinary meeting of the council held on Tuesday 7th September 2004 were approved with the following amendments:

Item 4.8.1 should read "Roundabout: the worn area around this should be filled with a concrete base before being covered with rubber crumb"

Item 4.19.2 should read "Following an article in the Hereford Times"

4. **Matters for report (Not covered by separate agenda items)**

4.1. **Access to Ewyas Harold Common**

Mr Rogers has sent the Council a copy of his letter to DEFRA dated 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2004 re his objection to the wildlife pond. In the accompanying letter he stated that he has sent a note setting out the background to the current situation to involved parties, and that a copy would be made available to the Council in time for its next meeting in October.

This note is still outstanding. Councillor P Jinman reported that a meeting of the Common Society was being arranged.

**Resolved**

That this is noted

**4.2. Precept 2005/2006**

Suggestions for capital projects for next year:

- Part funding of village website
- Surfacing around the roundabout
- Part funding of replacement slide

**Resolved**

That Clerk should write to Broadband department of HC to ascertain whether there was any central help available for setting up a website.

That the Clerk would approach ROSPA for advice on suitable slide installations

That the Clerk would flesh out the likely precept figures for next year and send them out with these minutes, as the precept needs to be finalised and agreed at the December Parish Meeting.

**ACTION CLERK**

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

It was accepted that the Community Charge is an issue that concerns most Parishioners, and as such EHGPC should be ensuring that these views are properly represented.

Councillor Middle distributed letters which identified spending for two of the departments within HC which concerned him, (Policy + Community and Corporate + Democratic Costs). The next LAF meeting is to be held at Peterchurch on 17<sup>th</sup> November and it was agreed that representatives of EHGPC should attend to ensure that the issue of Community Charges was discussed. To this end it was agreed that a sub-committee, consisting of Councillors Mrs E Overstall, Mrs M Tovey, J Middle and G Sprackling, should be formed to agree the line of questioning. It was also suggested that Parish Councils needed a collective scheme for making the views heard

**Resolved**

That the sub-committee should meet on 8<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm

**ACTION EO, MT, JM, GS**

That the Clerk would write to HALC to request that they consider collating the comments of other PCs.

**ACTION CLERK**

**4.4. A465**

Overhanging trees south of Pontrilas Garden Centre, as well as those opposite the blacksmith's shop in Pontrilas, have now been cut back.

The improvement work on the Rowstone junction and Llangua Bridge commenced in mid March 2004 has now been completed. Concerns were raised over the siting of the warning notices and the purpose of the red highlighted area on the bridge. Following the Joint Parishes Working Party on the A465 held on Monday July 19<sup>th</sup> 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 is noted

**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 contact Welsh Water if the work is not completed by December.

**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 is noted.

**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.

The Clerk has written to Mr Jenkins confirming both the request for the footways, and also reminding him of the agreement to carry out the other points raised at the site meeting.

**Resolved**

That this is noted

**4.8. Councillor Vacancy**

The Council decided to co-opt Mr Derek Harries into the vacant post of Councillor for Ewyas Harold.

Proposed: Councillor J Middle

Seconded: Councillor G Sprackling

Carried unanimously

**Resolved**

That the Clerk should invite Mr Harries to the next Parish Meeting when the appropriate paperwork could be completed.

**ACTION CLERK**

**4.9. Parish Plan Meeting**

The next meeting will be at Dulas Court on Wednesday November 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Resolved**

That this is noted

**4.10. RoSPA Report**

Fran White of HC has met with Councillor Middle and has submitted a written report of her suggestions for compliance with the report.

**4.10.1. Removal of the Slide**

The quote of £323.12 received from Golden Valley Construction (GVC) was accepted by the Council

**Resolved**

That the Clerk should instruct GVC to carry out the agreed work as soon as was practically possible.

**ACTION CLERK**

**4.10.2. Roundabout** A quote to install a rubberised surface around the roundabout has been received from DCM.

**Resolved**

That the Clerk should obtain other competitive quotes

**ACTION CLERK**

**4.10.3.Slide Replacement** Councillor Revd L Rickard reported that the user survey was still to be completed

**Resolved**

That this is noted

**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. Steven Charlton of HC has indicated that the likely cost of reinstating this adopted roadway would be approximately £30,000. It was decided that it may be possible to improve access for walkers by using funds from the Lengthsman scheme. To assess this possibility, a field visit will be made on Saturday November 6<sup>th</sup> by Councillors Mrs E Overstall, Mrs M Tovey, J Middle, P Sheen and G Sprackling

**Resolved**

That this is noted

**4.12. Bridleway between Great Walk Mill Farm and E H Common (EH19)**

Councillor Preece reported that the gate post at the Common entrance has dropped. The post needs securing and the gate re-hanging. This work is scheduled to be undertaken on November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Resolved**

That this item be deleted

**4.13. 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 this is noted

**4.14. 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 Councillor Mrs J Addis would report back to the residents.

**ACTION JA**

**4.15. Dog Fouling**

**4.15.1.Dog Fouling Notices.** Signs were requested for Callowside and Elmdale similar to those used in Pontrilas, but the Dog Wardens were unable to supply these as they appear to have been produced locally. The Clerk has written to Kentchurch Council requesting details of how to order these signs.

**Resolved**

That this is noted

**4.15.2.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 the Clerk applies for the designation of these areas under the Dogs Act.

**ACTION CLERK**

**4.16. Llancillo Signs**

The Clerk has contacted HC re the outstanding signs for Llancillo and they confirmed that they are still on order.

**Resolved**

That this is noted

**4.17. Potholes within Army Training Area**

Councillor Preece reported 2 potholes on the public road passing through the Army Training Area. This work has been completed.

**Resolved**

That this item be deleted

**4.18. Potholes outside Fire Station**

Councillor Mrs J Addis reported a pothole on the C1221 outside the Fire Station. This work has been completed.

**Resolved**

That this item be deleted

**4.19. Memorial Hall Trustees**

The Clerk has sent off the annual returns for 2003/2004 and confirmed with the Charity Commission that EHGPC is the custodial trustee for the Memorial Hall.

**Resolved**

That this item be deleted

**4.20. Flooding at Dulas Brook**

The Clerk read out the main points raised by Mr John Boileau in his letter to the Council, namely:

- The potential problem with insurance pay-outs if waterways were not kept free flowing
- The effect on house prices in areas prone to flooding.

The Clerk reported that the Environment Agency had been made aware of the obstructions in the brook; although the general view was these were not as yet a serious problem.

The 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.

**Resolved**

That this is noted

**4.21. Powercuts**

Councillor Jinman highlighted the continuing problem of powercuts within Ewyas Harold, especially the micro-breaks which are damaging to sensitive electronic equipment. Central Networks, the current electricity distributor, have confirmed that although they are able to log major powercuts they are not able to register the shorter breaks. They will, however, respond to concerns if local logging is undertaken and subsequently reported to them.

**Resolved**

That this is noted

#### 4.22. **Memorial Seat Request**

A site has been agreed for the erection of a seat on the Recreation Ground in memory of Ellis Whittal-Williams. The Recreation Ground Committee will agree the details of the cost and type of seat with Mrs Whittal-Williams

#### **Resolved**

That this is noted

#### 5. **Local Security Matters**

Councillor Jinman reported two incidents of theft.

- A wheel was stolen from a car left in the Memorial Hall car park
- A trailer was stolen from outside the owner's house in Ewyas Harold.

The current Parish Newsletter carries a reminder of the seasonal increase in thefts from outbuildings in the run-up to Xmas

#### 6. **Correspondence (Not covered by separate agenda items)**

6.1. SLLC Managing Community Projects in Wales (18/11/04)

6.2. HC Safety & Drugs Partnership Conference (30/11/04)

6.3. Herefordshire Partnership Parish Plans Surgery Event (29/11/04)

Paperwork to Councillor Mrs E Overstall

6.4. Mr John Boileau Letter withdrawing application for Councillor

#### **Resolved**

That this item was noted in 4.8

6.5. Mr John Boileau Information re consequences of living in flood-prone areas

#### **Resolved**

That this item was noted in 4.20

6.6. SLCC Clerk Vol 34, No 4 October 2004

6.7. HC Environment Confirmation of request for pothole repairs in October

6.8. HC Notice of Public Local Inquiry re Herefordshire UDP (8/02/05)

Questionnaire for objectors (respond by 27<sup>th</sup> October 2004)

The Clerk reported that the questionnaire had been returned and that Mr Mark Ponting would be acting as agent for the Parish Council at the inquiry

#### **Resolved**

That this is noted

6.9. HC Environment Acknowledgement of follow-up letter re Jarvis and Trappe House Wall

6.10. Riverside Training Business Start-Up Programme poster

Paperwork given to Councillor G Sprackling

6.11. Herefordshire Housing Findings of sewer investigation at Elmdale

#### **Resolved**

That this item was noted in 4.14

6.12. HALC Agenda for Meeting 25<sup>th</sup> October 2004

6.13. HALC Minutes for Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2004

6.14. PCCG Notice of Public Meeting at Credenhill Village Hall (26/10/04)

Paperwork given to Councillor G Sprackling

- 6.15. Fran White Information re suppliers of playground surfacing  
6.16. HC Environment Winter Gritting Routes 2004/5  
6.17. CPRE Countryside Voice – AUTUMN 2004  
6.18. CPRE Herefordshire NewsUpdate – October 2004  
6.19. HALC Annual General Meeting 28<sup>th</sup> October 2004  
6.20. G Valley Construction Quote for removal of slide  
**Resolved**  
That this item was noted in 4.10.1
- 6.21. DCM Play Surfaces Brochure for playground surfaces  
6.22. Welsh Water Completion of sewer maps for Ewyas Harold  
**Resolved**  
That this item was noted in 4.5
- 6.23. HC Policy + Community Schedule of meetings for Herefordshire Council  
6.24. HC Policy + Community Forward Plan 1<sup>st</sup> November 2004 to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2005  
6.25. HC Policy + Community Herefordshire Streetworks schedule  
6.26. HC Policy + Community Cultural guidelines for Parish Councils  
6.27. HC Policy + Community Forum for Festival and Events Organisers (11<sup>th</sup> November 2004)  
6.28. HC Environment Response to Jarvis Services + Trappe House Wall  
**Resolved**  
That this is noted
- 6.29. Grimshaw Group Stone cleaning services  
6.30. Mr + Mrs Tomlinson Request to book Recreation Ground and Pavilion (24/07/05)  
The Council agreed to this booking with the condition that the Recreation Ground will be available for other users on that day. The Council would also like to know which charity will be the beneficiary of this event.  
**Resolved**  
That the Clerk writes to confirm the booking and the resolutions of the Council.  
**ACTION CLERK**
- 6.31. Stephen Gray Request for graveyard grant and footpath lighting grant for St Michael and All Angels  
**Resolved**  
That the Council agree to the payments of these grants
- 6.32. HALC Info Corner 25.10.04 UDP Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> November  
**Resolved**  
That this is noted
- 6.33. HALC Booking form for Planning + Finance 6/11/04  
6.34. HALC Booking form for Freedom of Information 8/11/04  
6.35. HALC Booking form for PR/Communications 15/11/04  
6.36. HALC Booking form for Toolkits for Councillors 20/11/04  
6.37. HALC Booking form for Law + Procedures 4/12/04  
6.38. HALC Booking form For Rights of Way 9/12/04  
The above booking forms given to Councillor Mrs E Overstall

- 6.39. National Training Strategy Clerks' Bursary Scheme  
To encourage a greater uptake of training courses, the funding has been changed such that most Parish Councils are now able to claim 75% of training costs up to a maximum of £200

**Resolved**

That this is noted

- 6.40. Volunteer Driver Project Request for Volunteer Drivers  
Paperwork given to Councillor G Sprackling

- 6.41. Community First Notice of AGM – 19<sup>TH</sup> November 2004 (inc Rural Strategy Consultation)

- 6.42. Community First Annual Review 2003-2004

- 6.43. Community First Rural England after the Haskins Report

- 6.44. Mr Derek Harries CV of prospective Councillor

**Resolved**

That this item was noted in 4.8

- 6.45. HC Policy + Community Village ArtMakers(email communication)  
Ewyas Harold has been shortlisted for an art/heritage project over the next 2 years. There is still limited information on the actual content but the Council has agreed to go to the first step of meeting with the organisers to discuss likely projects.

**Resolved**

That the Clerk write to express an interest in this scheme

**ACTION CLERK**

- 6.46. HC Notice of Golden Valley LAF 17<sup>th</sup> November 2004 (email)  
Paperwork given to Councillor G Sprackling

**Resolved**

That this item was noted in 4.3

- 6.47. Office of DPM Notice of New Ethical Framework Regulations  
(Code of Conduct)

- 6.48. Clerks & Councils Direct November 2004 – Issue 36

- 6.49. Central Networks Response to complaint of power cuts in Ewyas Harold

**Resolved**

That this item was noted in 4.21

- 6.50. HC Train + Bus Timetables Update No 1 24<sup>th</sup> October 2004

- 6.51. HC Reminder of UDP Public Inquiry 24<sup>th</sup> November 2004

- 6.52. DCM Quotation for surfacing around rotarider

**Resolved**

That this item was noted in 4.10.2

## **7. Lengthsman Scheme**

- 7.1. **Lengthsman** work undertaken in September  
Still to be advised

## 8. Financial Report

### 8.1. Payments for approval

npower	electricity for pavilion 15/10/04	£	35.39
Clerk	postage	£	12.54
Clerk	travel	£	16.16
Clerk	Repayment of funds incorrectly transferred	£	3,000.00
See explanation below			
Alliance + Leicester	Transfer to higher interest account	£	4,000.00
Isabelle Devereaux	Expenses re Parish Plan up to 1 <sup>st</sup> Nov 2004	£	34.22

The Clerk transferred money in error from his own deposit account into the Parish funds rather than his own current account. After a full discussion and explanation the Council agreed to transfer these funds back to the Clerk's personal account.

### 8.2. Balances as at 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2004

NatWest	Current account	£	140.31
Alliance + Leicester		£	227.42
	Unpresented cheques	£	nil
	Cheques to be credited	£	nil
	Business Reserve	£	10,470.58*

**\*Includes £1061.25 of Lengthsman Scheme money**

### 8.3. Lengthsman Scheme

Balance	(6 <sup>th</sup> October 2004)	£	590.78
	Unpresented cheques	£	nil
	Balance available but not yet claimed	£	1,061.25
	Total still available in current year (allocation £4,245.00)	£	2,713.30**

**\*\* allowing for £1061.25 incorrectly sent to Business Reserve**

It was noted that £193.88 needed to be transferred from the Lengthsman Scheme to the Council's current account to cover road sweep costs for March to June 2004.

### Resolved

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

## 9. Planning

### 9.1. Application number DCSW2004/2616/Q

#### Notification of planning permission

Site	Building 10 Pontrilas Training Area, Pontrilas
Description	Conversion of store building to office accomodation

### Resolved

That this is noted

**9.2. Application number DCSW2004/3094/S**

**Agriculture and Forestry Buildings and Operations  
Prior Approval Not Required**

Site Lodge Farm, Walterstone, HR2 0DT  
Description Agricultural fodder store

**Resolved**

That this is noted

**9.3. Application number DCSW2004/3093/S**

**Agriculture and Forestry Buildings and Operations  
Prior Approval Not Required**

Site New House Farm, Rowstone, Pontrilas, HR2 0DR  
Description Agricultural fodder store

**Resolved**

That this is noted

**9.4. Application number DCSW2004/3702/F**

Site 4 Temple Terrace, Ewyas Harold, Herefordshire. HR2 0EU  
Description Detached Garage  
Application Type FULL  
Applicant Mr S Lloyd, 2 Thomas Close, Hereford.

**The Group Parish Council have no objections to this application**

**10. Road Maintenance and Related Matters**

**10.1. Potholes on Rowlestone Road**

\_\_\_Councillor Mrs M Williams reported several potholes in the Rowlestone Road outside Pontrilas Garden Centre

**Resolved**

That the Clerk would report this to Herefordshire Council

**ACTION CLERK**

**10.2. Overgrown Hedge**

It was reported that the privet hedge outside Temple Bar Inn on the right hand side of the car park needs cutting back.

**Resolved**

That the Clerk would write to the owner

**ACTION CLERK**

**10.3. Obstructions outside Dog Inn**

\_\_\_The Council was unaware whether HC had confirmed that the area outside the Dog Inn was part of the public highway.

**Resolved**

Clerk to clarify situation with Herefordshire Council

**ACTION**

**CLERK**

## **11. Footpaths**

There were no issues raised under this section

## **12. Recreation Ground**

### **12.1. Monthly Audit**

There were no issues raised under this section

### **12.2. Pavilion Clock**

Councillor Weaver reported that the clock donated by the Mailes family had now been vandalised beyond repair.

**Resolved**

Councillor Weaver to approach the Mailes family to find out what they would like done with the clock

**ACTION RW**

### **12.3. Toilet Cleaning**

It was noted that this work was now undertaken by Martin Roper.

### **12.4. Pavilion**

Councillor Weaver pointed out that the pavilion window and doors needed to be repaired and repainted

**Resolved**

That the Clerk would write to Mr R Michael to request a quote for this work.

**ACTION**

**CLERK**

### **12.5. Car Park**

Councillor Sprackling highlighted the need for the gravel in the car park to be renewed.

**Resolved**

That the Clerk should contact Mr Nick Eynon to obtain a quote.

**ACTION CLERK**

### **12.6. Management Group**

It was agreed that consideration should be given to forming a management group for the Recreation Ground as this would help future funding applications.

**Resolved**

That this is noted

## **13. Parish Newsletter**

**13.1. Items for inclusion**

The current draft was discussed. It was agreed that a note on the Village Artmaker project should be included.

**13.2. Newsletter income**

The Newsletter is now earning some revenue through advertisements. It was agreed that this income should be managed by the Clerk in the Parish account.

It was also agreed that the Council should assure itself that this income was not liable to any form of declaration and taxation other than through the end of year accounts.

**Resolved**

That the Clerk should write to HALC to clarify the issue of revenue raised through the Newsletter.

**ACTION**

**CLERK**

**14. Matters for Further Discussion**

There were no issues raised under this section

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Meeting closed at 10.20pm

Chairman

Date

<p><b>NEXT MEETING</b>      Tuesday December 7<sup>th</sup> 2004</p> <p>Meetings for 2005</p> <p>January 4<sup>th</sup> 2005</p> <p>February 1<sup>st</sup> 2005</p> <p>March 1<sup>st</sup> 2005</p> <p>April 5<sup>th</sup> 2005</p> <p>May 10<sup>th</sup> 2005 (not first Tuesday)</p> <p>June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2005</p> <p>July 5<sup>th</sup> 2005</p>
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