

EAST HARPTREE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 15th November 2022 at 7.30pm in The Theatre, East Harptree

1. **Present:** Cllrs Pam Carver (Vice-chair), Kate Gillingham, Alan Harper, Mick Underhill and John Vinson. Ward Councillor David Wood.

Clerk: Sarah-Jane Streatfeild-James

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2. **Apologies for absence:** Cllrs Andrew Jones and Richard Coombs
3. **Public forum:**
 - i) No residents present.
 - ii) Ward Councillors report – sent prior to the meeting. This was a review of the building works behind Yearten House. Cllr Wood was thanked for his phenomenal report detailing the history of the issues and concerns re the raising of the Finished Floor Levels (FFLs) and the height of the gardens. He has spoken to other people at B&NES who agree the current situation needs reviewing. Planning permission re the developer’s request for a variation (VAR) re these matters has not yet been given so there is still a chance to influence garden levels. Agreed that Councillor Wood will continue to pursue this on behalf of the parish council.
4. **Declarations of interest:** none
5. **Confirmation of minutes of the meeting held on 18th October 2022:** accepted as a true record of the meeting. Unanimously agreed. A hard copy was signed by the Chair and returned to the Clerk.
6. **Planning applications:**
 - i) Application reference: [22/04221/FUL](#)
Application Address: The Cottage , Middle Street, East Harptree, BS40 6AZ
Proposal: Extension and conversion of existing garage to summerhouse and home office. *This is the second planning application currently under consideration on this site. Whilst the building plans are considered acceptable EHPC has the same concerns that were noted for planning application 22/03798/FUL, notably a lack of detail about the application and concerns about the ecology at the site. Agreed to note concerns regarding ecology – bats, badgers and hedgerows; water run-off from the driveway, and lighting, which needs to be in keeping with the Dark Skies Policy. Agreed to **object** to the application pending evidence that these points have been addressed.*

Signed by..... Date.....

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ii) **Application Reference:** [22/04068/FUL](#)

Application Address: Sherborne House, Coley Narrow, Coley, BA3 4PR

Proposal: Engineering works within the garden to Sherborne House along with a new vehicular access track across the garden and adjacent agricultural land. *This application will require a significant amount of earth to be moved to create a bund to protect against the noise from the adjacent property where a farrier has a business. Three small trees will be lost, EHPC would like to see these replaced on the site. A detailed Primary Ecology Assessment (PEA) had been commissioned by the owners. No significant concerns were identified, and the PEA and proposed actions were welcomed. EHPC unanimously agreed to **support** this application.*

7. Formal motions requiring a decision:

- i) EHPC agreed unanimously to the request from the East Harptree Playing Fields Committee for £2000 towards the annual maintenance of the playing fields and pavilion.
- ii) Discussed request for a grant from Midsomer Norton Dial-a-Ride for £70. Whilst it was reported that no residents had used the service in the last year, because Dial-a-Ride is a charity offering a very useful transport service in a rural area where bus services are being reduced, EHPC agreed unanimously to the grant request. Also agreed that the service will be actively advertised and promoted within the village.
- iii) Discussed and agreed to move the date of the Village Brunch planned for December to January 15th 2023. The EAST group are holding a similar meeting in late November so to avoid confusion the village event will be postponed.

8. Finance:

- i) To note standing orders:
SJ Streatfeild-James - clerks salary (November)
Paul Sperring - sweepers salary (November)
- ii) The payment list for Oct 22 was noted.
- iii) Discussed increasing the monthly printing plan from 100 to 300 pages @ £9.99 per month (then halved with Chew Stoke Parish Council), information provided about usage and that current plan is not adequate for 2 councils. The proposed plan would be a total of £60/year for all printing needs. To add a motion to agree this at the December meeting.

iv) The following payments were agreed:-

Date	Item	Payee	VAT	Total
10.10.22	Clerk expenses – HWA x 1	SJ Streatfeild-James		£12.00
07.11.22	Hall hire, bus meeting	Bishop Sutton Village Hall		£11.00
8.11.22	Extra printing	SJ Streatfeild-James		£35.00

9. Matters of report:

- i) Minutes and papers from the CV Area Forum Climate & Nature Emergency Working Group have been circulated to Councillors.

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- ii) Discussed a request from B&NES to compile a 'Community Resilience' plan, agreed that this does not have to be too in-depth or complex to complete. Cllr Underhill agreed to take this forward with the Clerk.
 - iii) The Harptree Charities meeting is due to be held on Monday 28th November, at 8pm. The Parish Council will be represented by at least 3 Councillors.
 - iv) Biodiversity Information from the East Harptree Environment Group (EHEG) to support EHPC Planning Consultation responses has been circulated to Councillors for consideration. A checklist was also shared with Councillors at the meeting, this would be used for our own benefit when considering planning applications, there is no intention to submit the checklist with planning responses etc. However, it was suggested that the Planning Dept. could be made aware of the EHEG Wildlife Planning Map. Cllr Carver will send the checklist to Councillors, agreed they will test it on an upcoming planning application.
 - v) The Centre for Sustainable Energy (CSE) have been tasked by B&NES to look at various locations within the area that may be suitable for renewable energy, eg wind turbines or solar panels. Following recent workshops, a follow-up online survey is now available, giving all residents an opportunity to comment. The current potential locations have been suggested following technical assessments only at this stage. The survey is important at this stage to gather widespread views of the communities.
 - vi) Building behind Yearten House, this was discussed previously in the meeting, a site visit had been proposed, but the review by Cllr Wood replaces the need for a visit at present, however this will be reviewed at a later stage.
 - vii) The East Harptree Sustainable Transport Group (EAST) are holding a brunch meeting on Sunday 27th November to discuss the findings of their transport survey held over the summer.
 - viii) Cllr Harper proposed the idea of a village party next year to celebrate the King's Coronation and to fundraise for a memorial for the late Queen. This would not be a parish council lead event, Cllr Harper offered to host in his garden. Councillors present very supportive of the concept.
1. Closed session:
- i) Councillors agreed the 2022/3 annual pay increase for our Parish Clerk as proposed by EHPC's Remuneration and Personnel Advisory Group (REMPAG).

Meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Next meeting: **Monday 12th December** at 7.30pm, in The Theatre, East Harptree.

Signed by..... Date.....

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