

EVERDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Everdon Parish Council
held on Monday 12 September 2016 at 7:00pm
in the Village Hall, Everdon

Present: Councillors Kevin Nichols (Chairman), Peter Cooper, Shaen Linfoot, David Osborne and Keith Wilkins.

In attendance: Clerk/RFO Erica Fothergill

1 After considering both nominees it was decided, by majority vote, to co-opt Karen King as Councillor. The Clerk was requested to advise nominees of the outcome.

2 **Requests for dispensation – None.**

3 **Public Participation – None**

4 **Apologies** received/approved - Cllrs Ron Flounders and Peter Nevill due to prior engagements. County / District Cllrs Robin Brown, Johnnie Amos and Adam Brown also sent apologies.

5 **Members' Declarations of Interest - None**

6 Resolved to sign the minutes of the statutory meeting of the Parish Council held on 11 July 2016 as a true reflection of proceedings.

7 **Planning**

Application	Address	Details	Comments
DA/2016/0772	The Cottage, Rear of The Plough, Bethel Lane, Everdon	Demolition of outbuilding and re-build for bed and breakfast accommodation	Supported

8 **Finance**

1 Resolved to approve the July/August 2016 bank reconciliations.

2 Resolved to approve the July/August 2016 Income and Expenditure.

3 The Financial Regulations and Risk Assessment reviewed and amended at the July meeting to reflect the content of the approved bank mandate, were approved.

4 There were no issues arising from the external audit and the Chairman thanked the Clerk for her hard work in ensuring that council complies with requirements.

5 Resolved to approve payment of outstanding accounts below:

Payment	Payee	Description	Amount £
Internet	Erica Fothergill	July and August salaries – Jul / Aug	614.40
Internet	Erica Fothergill	July and August expenses, incl. stationery	81.35
Internet	S.H Tree Works	Mowing – Jul / Aug	800.00
Internet	ImageIT	Newsletter printing costs	87.60
Internet	E-On	Replaced ballast – lamp 6	31.27
Internet	BDP LLP	External audit fee	156.00

9 Correspondence – Noted.

10	<p><u>Policies Reviewed</u></p> <p>The following policies were reviewed and approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complaints Procedure for Complaints against the Council • Recording of Decisions made the Officers • Policy for Retention of Documents • Employee Disciplinary Procedure • Equal Opportunities 	
11	<p>Following the site meeting with Highway representatives, the Chairman reported as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highways will monitor and repair the worst sections of the roadside verges from Everdon Stubbs to the bridge where running water has eroded the carriageway edges, creating deep ruts. • Potholes on Snorscomb Lane, beyond the Mill – Highways have advised that their responsibility ceases at the Mill, whereupon the road becomes a right of way. Cllr. Linfoot will follow up with the ROW team, to discuss maintenance responsibilities. • An order has been be placed for clearing the drainage grips between Snorscomb crossroads and the bridge and this should be undertaken by the end of the year; • The repairs to the bridge parapet wall are currently programmed for the end of October – exact date to be confirmed. Unfortunately there will have to be a full road closure for around two weeks whist these works are undertaken to ensure the safety of road users and the contractor. • The Priority sign before the bridge has now been rotated correctly to face oncoming traffic, vegetation obscuring sign will be cut back when the Parish Enhancement gang is in the area; • The metal grate on the pavement outside 30 Stubbs Road is the responsibility of the resident. It has been repaired, but not to the full Highways standard. It has been suggested that the grate should shortened slightly, in order to lay correctly above the drainage channel, rather than simply placing coloured tape across the joints. • The overgrown hedge on Bethel Lane has now been trimmed; • The Highway Inspector will check for any defects on the broken road surface on Bethel Lane that meet the intervention levels on his next programmed visit to the village; • Potholes on the bend by the church, together with Newnham Road & Fawsley Road will be dealt with; • Leaking drain outside 4 Long Row Cottages –The actual drainage appears to run into a soak-away system as no exit pipe could be identified. It was suggested getting an approved contractor to dig in the area where the obstruction was identified to confirm exactly the type of system and what is causing the backing up of the water from the downpipe; 	SL

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blocked culverts on Fawsley Road & Pigeon Gap - The gullies will be jetted on Fawsley Road and also the culvert under the carriageway which runs from "The Cottage" to behind Long Row Close. The damaged grit bin on Fawsley Road has been replaced and filled; Possible traffic restrictions to Fawsley Road – Advisory "Unsuitable for Heavy Goods Vehicle" signs are already erected. A 7.5t Amenity Weight limit was discussed but Public Service Vehicles and Coaches are exempt; General condition of pavements – Any defects of 20mm or above (footway intervention level) will be picked up on routine inspections but no other footway works planned; Weed spraying contractor is moving around county but cannot give a timescale due to weather conditions and as this forms part of rolling program. Newnham Road Badger Holes – the Environmental Manager will visit the site to investigate if the sett is still active. If the remedial works are required, then a licence will be obtained from Natural England. 	
12	It was agreed that Cllrs Nichols, Osborne, Cooper and Wilkins would attend Northants CALC's Annual General Meeting on Saturday 8 October 2016 at Wootton Hall, Wootton Park, Northampton.	
13	The Fete Committee's request to use the village green for hosting the fete was retrospectively approved.	
14	It was reported that there had been a number of instances of parking on the village green, therefore, it was agreed to display some 'No Parking' signs on the village green and to monitor the situation. The Clerk reminded Council of a byelaw which prohibits parking on the village green - notification of this byelaw is still displayed on the wall of the Outdoor Learning Centre.	KN/DO
15	<p>Drainage issues outside Long Row Cottages</p> <p>Despite extensive research by the Clerk, who looked at archived minutes and records going back more than 40 years, absolutely no evidence could be found in respect of the planting, or ownership, of the Rowan trees, notwithstanding that they are planted on highways land. The Highways team are of the opinion that the drainage appears to run into a soak-away beneath their land, as no exit pipe into the drainage system could be identified. Highways suggested that the home-owner may wish to use the services of an approved County Council contractor to undertake the necessary investigative work to ascertain the precise cause of the blockage and what damage had been caused. It was therefore agreed by The Parish Council that no expenditure should be authorised for works to trees, for which ownership could not be confirmed and that no further action would be taken.</p>	
16	DDC's 'dog poo campaign' commenced on 5 th September and feedback on the outcome will be provided in October.	
17	The decision on whether to implement a "best garden" award for the village was deferred to the November meeting.	ALL

18	The Chairman paid a personal tribute to Ex-Councillor Don Aitkenhead who, despite his short time with the Council, had made a marked contribution, particularly with the Superfast Broadband project, which is now available in the village, well ahead of both County and national timescales. Don was well respected by his peers and the community at large. He was an asset to the Council and will be sadly missed.	
19	Date of next meeting – The next meeting will take place at 7pm on Monday 10 th October 2016. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 8:05pm.	