

Draft minutes of the
MEETING OF ERLESTOKE PARISH COUNCIL
Monday 4th September 2023

Present: Councillor A Rogers (Chairperson)
Councillor K Lewcock
Councillor C West
Councillor F Morgan-Frise
Councillor J Durham

In Attendance: Mrs Polly Doyle – Parish Clerk
Stan Jonik
Simon West – Church Verger

Public Participation – To receive questions from members of the public.

Stan Jonik was invited to provide an update on the footpaths and committed to checking the signposts and signs and review any maintenance tasks that need to be undertaken. Any complaints regarding footpaths need to be logged to go through MyWilts app.

7.10pm Councillor West arrived

7.15pm Councillor Durham arrived

683/23 APOLOGIES

No apologies

684/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest.

685/23 MINUTES

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 19th July 2023 were confirmed by the Chairperson, Councillor A Rogers, as a correct record.

686/23 VOTE FOR CHAIRPERSON

It was proposed, seconded and **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to approve the voting in of Councillor F Morgan-Frise as the new Chairperson.

687/23 REPORT FROM COUNCILLOR TAMARA REAY – WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

The local plan review (the key place shaping document and the strategy for how county will deliver on housing needs with a suite of planning policies) is out for public consultation in September and there will be events held eg in Devizes library in October.

It is intended that the majority of houses will be delivered in towns, but then also large villages with infrastructure such as shops etc will also have houses built. There are currently no plans for Erlestoke to have any house developments.

There will be greater flexibility for smaller sites to develop houses, particularly lower cost houses. For example; for older generations wanting to move to smaller accommodation but stay in their local community. The plan is to be adopted in 2024.

Devizes and Warminster are to have a new arrangement for recycling as currently 30% going to refuse could be recycled.

A large garden grant has been received by Devizes to revise the tree warden scheme and a launch of this scheme will occur at the end of the month.

Please note that there is Victorian sewer replacement happening in Devizes town centre. The contractor has worked closely with Highways to minimise impact on traffic.

Devizes Area Board meeting will be held on Monday 11th September at 6.30pm at Needham House. The Chief Constable is attending.

688/23 It was voted to move point 17 forward; WIFI IN THE CHURCH

Simon West the Church Verger has researched the three best options for installing WiFi in the church and the Vodaphone option was unanimously voted for. Simon West to action this and Erlestoke Parish Council to be responsible for the direct debit and the agreement will be reviewed in a years' time. This arrangement will support parish meetings being online and village events being held in the church.

689/23 FINANCE

689/23.1 BANK BALANCES

The bank balances were noted.

689/23.2 UPDATED CASH BOOK

The cashbook was noted.

690/23 REIMBURSEMENT FOR FENCE REPAIR

It was unanimously agreed to approve the payment to Laurie Bennett for the playground maintenance and reimbursements.

691/23 REIMBURSEMENT TO CLERK

It was unanimously agreed to approve the reimbursement to the clerk for £39.43.

692/23 OVERTIME HOURS APPROVED

The clerk's overtime for August was unanimously agreed to approve.

693/23 PLAYGROUND BIN

It was unanimously agreed to approve the purchase of a specified bin for the playground using the Council grant previously received.

694/23 EPC LAPTOP

It was unanimously agreed to approve the purchase of the recommended laptop that came within the £700 agreed purchase limit.

695/23 REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS FOR PARISH CLERK POSITION

Councillor Rogers shared a declaration of interest with the candidate selection. Interviews to be held the week of the 11th September by Councillor Morgan-Frise, Councillor West and the clerk.

696/23 INVOICE FROM WANSBOROUGHES IN REGARDS TO SSE LEASE

It was unanimously agreed that once Councillor Lewcock had completed due diligence that the proposed final invoice was accepted and paid.

697/23 PLAYGROUND MANAGEMENT POLICY

It was unanimously agreed to accept the proposed playground management policy.

698/23 WHITE GATES

Councillor West to complete the form requesting a Highways engineer to review the locations for the gates. To be updated and reviewed at next meeting.

699/23 TREE WARDEN FOR PARISH

Councillor Morgan-Frise to research further, check targets and review next meeting.

700/23 GEORGE AND DRAGON PUB

The village pub has a Community Asset status until 13th May 2025. Clerk to contact pub landlord to invite him to start a conversation in regards to the future of the pub.

701/23 UPDATE ON ONGOING POINTS

The playground is due a RoSPA inspection in September.

The Parish Steward will be working in Erlestoke on the following dates; 24th August, 25th September, 23rd October and 20th November.

702/23 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

No applications to note.

703/23 PLANNING APPLICATIONS DETERMINED

Planning applications determined noted.

704/23 EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND ON-GOING MATTERS – Please note no decisions can be made on any items discussed under this agenda item.

- Play Area
- Sub station
- Telephone kiosk

Clerk to contact BT in regards to maintenance of the phone kiosk.

705/23 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM EPC REPRESENTATIVES

705/23.1 Footpaths - Mr S. Jonik

Footpaths to be reviewed for maintenance

705/23.2 Cricket and Golf Club, Erlestoke Prison and EPC land - Councillor Lewcock

Councillor Lewcock in the process of arranging a meeting with the prison. Councillor Morgan-Frise to contact the golf club for a meeting.

705/23.3 Health and Well-being - Councillor Morgan-Frise

705/23.4 Information Technology and the Play Area - Councillor Durham

New laptop to be purchased and then set up by Councillor Durham

Play area inspected by Councillor Rogers

705/23.5 Flood Warden – Vacant position

705/23.6 Police Community Support officer – Paula Yarranton 6015

705/23.7 MOD and Erlestoke Woods – Councillor Rogers

705/23.8 Defibrillator – Mike Donnachie

Mike Donnachie will be leaving this position in a few months. Please contact the clerk if you are interested in assisting with this position.

705/23.9 Website – Mr S Jonik, Clerk Polly Doyle and Councillor James Durham

The next Parish Council Meeting is Monday 30th October 2023.

Meeting finished at 21:00