

**EAST HARPTREE PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM ON TUESDAY  
16<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2020 STARTING AT 7.30pm**

	<u>Present:</u> Cllrs Andrew Jones, Pam Carver, John Vinson, Wendy Gregory, Richard Coombs and Kate Gillingham; also in attendance Cllr David Wood and Alan Butcher (Clerk)	
2006/1	<u>Apologies for absence.</u> None.	
2006/2	<p><b><u>Public Forum</u></b></p> <p>i) A member of the public (in attendance) had circulated a link and details about establishing a walking/cycling network around East Harptree and reminded councillors that action was required to establish such a network. Cllr Wood offered to take this matter forward.</p> <p>ii) Report from Ward Councillor. Cllr Wood referred to the walking and cycling networks which were part of the WECA remit and for which government had offered £2.5bn to establish. Initially monies would be directed toward “shovel ready” projects which involved schemes connected with social distancing and the like. Following schemes would be via B&amp;NES to WECA and it was up to the village to decide what was required in East Harptree. Cllr Gregory suggested that the village should consider a “shovel ready” scheme, particularly how children travelled to school. Cllr Vinson felt that the walking and cycling network should be a priority for the village. Cllr Wood hoped that the villages initiative fund would still be available after the current budget review and reminded councillors that £500 could be available to the parish for environmental schemes. Cllr Vinson asked about the situation with the CVNP CIL monies, Cllr Wood advised that the matter was still in discussion.</p> <p>The formal meeting re-convened.</p>	
2006/3	<u>Declarations of Interest:</u> None.	
2006/4	<p><u>Confirmation of the Minutes of previous meetings:</u></p> <p>i) Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2020 were agreed and signed as a true record with two minor corrections made by the chairman to the hard copy which he then signed.</p>	

2006/5	<p><u>Formal Motions requiring a decision:</u></p> <p>i) To decide continuing actions for the upgrade of the Parish Council website.</p> <p>Cllr Gregory had prepared a comparison between the two suppliers (Daniel Stephenson and Netwise) being considered for the upgrade of the Parish Council website.</p> <p>Cllr Gregory suggested that councillors should consider appearance as well as price when selecting the preferred supplier. Cllr Carver asked about help and support and the menu options to ensure that the website could be viewed on all devices.</p> <p>Councillors generally agreed that they preferred the appearance of the site proposed by DS and also agreed that they would prefer to support DS as a local person even though his proposal was slightly more expensive.</p> <p>Cllr Jones advised that the updated website should have long term viability to ensure that it can be managed easily by the Parish Council even with changing personnel. The question of training was raised and Cllr Gregory advised that training and support would be available with DS even though he worked freelance in addition to full time employment. Cllr Jones asked about receiving feedback from parishioners, Cllr Gregory advised that a simple online survey of limited scope would be available.</p> <p>In summary councillors agreed that they preferred the proposal from DS both in appearance and because it was provided by a local person and that the difference in cost was not significant enough to prevent the use of this supplier. Cllr Jones proposed that the Parish Council proceed with the upgrade to the website using Daniel Stephenson as supplier in accordance with his submitted quote. This was agreed 5 in favour, 1 against.</p> <p>Councillors discussed funding for the proposals and, after consideration, it was agreed that the CIL monies held by the council for “infrastructure” projects should be used to fund this upgrade and that the Parish Council should prepare documentation to support the use of these monies. This was agreed unanimously.</p> <p>After discussion, Cllr Gregory agreed to move the matter forward with the agreed supplier as soon as possible. provided the financing of the project and its source were clearly defined and confirmed.</p>	
--------	--	--

	<p>ii) To decide on process to change Parish Council banking to an “ethical” bank and to consider on-line banking. Cllr Gillingham had circulated information about Triodos Bank which offered ethical banking and also online banking if required. She advised that there was a charge for the use of cheques. The clerk confirmed that there were no charges with the current bank, Natwest although all agreed that the council had received very poor service from Natwest in recent times.</p> <p>The clerk outlined the current process for managing payments and banking and councillors agreed unanimously to proceed with the transfer of council banking to Triodos, Cllr Gillingham to advise on the process to affect this transfer.</p>	
2006/6	<p><u>Parish Council Matters</u></p> <p>i) CNEWG Report to the Parish Council. This had been received and circulated. Councillors noted that a number of immediate actions were suggested and, after discussion, agreed unanimously to endorse the interim report and decide on a course of action to take those actions forward. Councillor Gregory stated that the council should be aware of the huge amount of work and professional input that has already taken place by the WG who are looking to the council not just for acceptance of the report but of active support and input. Cllr Wood as portfolio holder for waste and recycling at B&amp;NES offered to assist in this regard.</p> <p>Cllr Vinson proposed an informal meeting to review the report and prepare a list of Parish Council actions to be discussed at the next formal meeting in July. Cllr Jones felt that this was a good report which offered a number of actions which would assist during the current emergency. The council needed to be able to deal with tangible actions in conjunction with the community. It was agreed unanimously to hold an informal Zoom meeting as soon as possible, Cllr Jones to advise date, clerk to arrange Zoom meeting.</p> <p>ii) Update on B&amp;NES Partial Update. Cllr Carver advised that the response had been sent in before the deadline. Councillors thanked the CNEWG and VEG for their input. Cllr Carver advised that the next stage of the consultation process would take place in the autumn of 2020.</p> <p>iii) Content update for current website. Cllr Carver had prepared and circulated updates to the Neighbourhood Plan and Local Plan pages of the website. It was agreed unanimously to update the website; Cllr Carver to liaise with the clerk who would update the website with the revised content.</p> <p>iv) To note planning application 20/01951/COND – discharge of conditions at Maeher Cottage, Coley Road, BS40 6AP. Non comment application. This was noted.</p>	

2006/7	<u>Financial:</u>  i) HMRC Tax payment - £148.20. This was approved. ii) Clerks Salary and expenses - £457.84. This was approved. iii) Payment of Clock Honorarium to Paul Waldron £120.00. This was approved	
2006/8	<u>Matters of Report.</u>  i) The chairman reported he had received a letter of resignation from the clerk which had been accepted. Councillors gave a vote of thanks to the clerk for his six years of service to the council. ii) Cllr Vinson enquired about funding for environmental projects. iii) Cllr Gillingham asked about the missing sign at Townsend; the clerk advised he had contacted B&NES.	
2006/9	<u>Date and Time of Next Meeting:</u> 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2020 @ 7.30pm	

The meeting ended at 9.10pm

**Alan Butcher,**  
**Parish Clerk,**  
**June 2020.**  
**01749 870358;**  
**eastharptreeparishcouncil@gmail.com**