

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on
3rd March 2016 in Elmstone Hardwicke Village Hall.**

Present

Chair: Councillor K Preece and Councillors, D Lewis and L. Neale.

In Attendance

D. Roscoe (clerk), David Waters (Borough Councillor) and 6 members of the public

420 Apologies for absence.

420.1 Apologies were received from R Powell.

421 Declarations of Interest

421.1 There were no Declarations of Interest.

422 Requests for Dispensation

422.1 There were no requests for Dispensation.

423 Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 8th January 2016.

423.1 The minutes of the last meeting were approved as a true record subject to the location address of the planning applications 15/00801/FUL and 15/00801/FUL being corrected to read "Cursey Lane, Elmstone Hardwicke" and they were then signed by the Chairman.

424 Clerks Report

424.1 The clerk's report was reviewed and updated with actions from previous Minutes.

425 To appoint a new member of the Parish Council

425.1 The Chairman informed Council that Bruce Stevens had expressed an interest in becoming a member. The Council were pleased at this approach. **Action:** The clerk will forward the appropriate documentation to the Chairman to complete with the applicant.

426 County Councillor's Report

426.1 No report.

427 Borough Councillor's Report

427.1 Councillor Waters gave his report which is attached..

428 Police Report

428.1 No report was received.

429 Finance

429.1 The Financial Report and Bank Reconciliation was distributed by the clerk and approved by Council. Proposed Councillor Neale, seconded Councillor Preece. Unanimous

429.2 **It was resolved that** the following payments and receipts be approved. Proposed Councillor Neale, seconded Councillor Preece. Unanimous

Elmstone Hardwicke Parish Council

Clerk to the Council: David Roscoe

2 Mews Cottage, St Peter's Lane, Dumbleton, Worcs WR11 7TL
Telephone: 07950118355 E-Mail: elmstonehardwickepc@gmail.com
Web Site: <http://elmstonehardwickepc.wix.com/elmstonehardwickepc>

Date	Chq No	Payee	Reason	VAT	Amount incl VAT
19/02/2016	DD	D Roscoe	Clerks Salary	0.00	137.28
04/02/2016	801	Mrs M Troughton	Grass Cutting	0.00	100.00
19/03/2016	DD	D Roscoe	Clerks Salary	0.00	137.28
03/03/2016	802	HMRC	Tax	0.00	103.00
03/03/2016	803	D Roscoe	Clerks Expenses	4.42	78.53
01/03/2016	804	GAPTC	Subs	0.00	69.84

- 429.3 **It was resolved that** the clerk's expenses be approved. Proposed Councillor Lewis, seconded Councillor Preece. Unanimous.
- 429.4 **It was resolved that** approval be given to the clerk to spend the money received from the Transparency Fund Of £1,250 as detailed in the original application.
- 429.5 The 2016/17 Budget was reviewed and agreed.
- 429.6 The Asset Register was reviewed and no amendments made.

430 Planning

430.1 The following planning applications were reviewed:

Appl Number	Application	Details
15/01333/FUL	Ridgelands Gloucester Road Tewkesbury Gloucestershire	Demolition of existing stables and erection of single storey detached building to comprise annex, to provide additional living accommodation ancillary to the principal dwelling. Permit
15/01126/FUL	Part Parcel 8227 Tewkesbury Road Elmstone Hardwicke Cheltenham AMENDED	Erection of two buildings for Industrial/Factory development (Use Classes B1(c), B2 and B8) with ancillary offices (Use Class B1(a)) together with associated access road, landscaping, drainage ponds, car and cycle parking, service yards and access to Tewkesbury Road (A4019). Refused

431 Risk Register

431.1 The register was reviewed and updated. No issues reported.

432 To report any Highways Issues.

432.1 No issues were reported.

433 To consider actions relating to the Litter Pick.

433.1 It was confirmed that Phil Smith was arranging the litter pick and further details were awaited.

434 Items for Future Agenda

434.1 To agree the terms of the new tenancy agreement.

Date of the next meeting **Thursday 5/5/16 commencing at 7.00pm which will be the Annual General Meeting followed by the Parish Council Meeting at Elmstone Hardwicke Church.**

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm

-:-

Elmstone Hardwicke Parish Council

Clerk to the Council: David Roscoe

2 Mews Cottage, St Peter's Lane, Dumbleton, Worcs WR11 7TL

Telephone: 07950118355 E-Mail: elmstonehardwickepc@gmail.com

Web Site: <http://elmstonehardwickep.wix.com/elmstonehardwickepc>

PQT

- It was noted that the lamp at junction 10 of the motorway was still not working.
- A query was raised regarding the location of the Parish Map.

Tewkesbury Borough Council
Ward Councillors Report 2016

Successful election for the Conservative Group now have an overwhelming majority on the Council. The Council has had to induct a large number of new councillors.

JCS

Now under examination in public. The whole process has been long and bureaucratic. This has caused much frustration amongst councillors as they want to have a plan to guard against speculative development, which is more difficult to defend against without a plan. Recently there has been some progress, but the time and costs remain a concern for the council, along with the delay in delivery of housing.

Devolution

Lots of work went in to preparing a bid for Devolution for Gloucestershire and this was progressing well until the end of November when Cotswold District Council proposed to become a unitary district working with Oxfordshire and South Northamptonshire. It is too early to tell how this will evolve if at all. We are now looking at impacts to Gloucestershire but it looks like the Devolution bid as it stands is unlikely to go ahead. That said much of the joint working that has been established can continue and be improved on with devolution.

Waste Service Review

We have reviewed the waste service as the vehicle fleet contract expires in 2017. When events like this happen we have to review the service. The recommendations from the review were to maintain the current system. The only difference is that two vehicles will now collect, weekly food waste and alternate recycling / residual waste. This makes more efficient use of vehicles. We are now undergoing an exercise in the best way of procuring the vehicles ready for tender for next year.

Community Grants Scheme

Elmstone Hardwicke Parish Council

Clerk to the Council: David Roscoe

2 Mews Cottage, St Peter's Lane, Dumbleton, Worcs WR11 7TL

Telephone: 07950118355 E-Mail: elmstonehardwickepc@gmail.com

Web Site: <http://elmstonehardwickepc.wix.com/elmstonehardwickepc>

We have managed to keep some form of community grant and have now opened this up to revenue grants as well as capital grants. This funding actually comes from the New Homes Bonus.

Finances

As with all local government finances, times are very difficult and challenging to say the least. In the last budget the Chancellor has said that the Revenue Grant Support will be reduced to 0 over the next five years, currently for Tewkesbury it is around £850,000 so this is a significant impact on the budget. He did say that business rates could be kept but no detail on this has been published. There is a consultation out on New Homes Bonus, we use 65% of this scheme to maintain the base budget, so any changes or removal of this scheme adds to the uncertainty and risk to future budgets.

We have therefore agreed to increase council tax by £5.00 per annum for a band D property. Council tax has not increased over the past five years and we have worked hard to ensure that services have not been cut and this would not be possible without an increase in council tax.

Looking to the future:

The new leisure facility will come on stream at the end of May

We are also looking to develop the Spring Gardens Site (Cascades) with a mixed use of residential and retail, whilst retaining open space for car parking and the mop fair.

Financially the outlook is difficult and we are looking at ways we can raise revenue, by being more commercial.