

KIDDERMINSTER FOREIGN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

held in Trimpley Village Hall on Monday 16th August 2021 at 7.30pm

Present Councillor Mr. J Gammond (Vice Ch) Councillor Mr. C. Holford
Councillor Mr. C. Grainger Councillor Mr. B. Phillips
County Councillor I. Hardiman 1 member of the public was present
Mrs E Whitehouse (Clerk) Dist. Cllr. J. Byng & Dist Cllr.P Harrison

Police Report – Police were not present.

1. Cllr Grainger advised that there had been instances of anti-social behaviour again in Northwood lane with young people drinking.

2. **Public Open Forum**

Nothing raised.

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3. **Apologies For Absence:** Received and approved for Councillor Mr. C. Jordan and Councillor Mrs. C Gammond.

4. **Declarations of Interest:** Cllr. Grainger declared an interest in any item concerning Riddings Brook. Cllr. J Gammond declared an interest in being a member of the Village Hall Committee.

5. **Approval of the Minutes** The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 26th July 2021 were approved and signed.

6. **Casual Vacancy for a Parish Councillor** – Following the resignation of Cllr. Mrs. L. Green, the Clerk advised that providing no poll had been claimed by 12.00 midnight, the Parish Council could now proceed to fill the vacancy by co-option. Clerk supplied notices to be posted on the noticeboards, and gave a hard copy of the application form to each councillor providing no poll was claimed. She would also post the notice on the website, along with a link to download the application form from there, should further copies be required. As requested, the Clerk had written to Cllr. Mrs. Green and thanked her for her 8-years' service to the Parish.

7. **County and District Councillors' Reports – Report from County Councillor Ian Hardiman**

County Issues:

“Undoubtedly, the major news received recently is the Government’s agreement to provide £6.2million funding to support the Environment Agency’s initiative for a Permanent Barrier System for the Beales Corner/Stourport Road area in Wribbenhall. Importantly, since Prime Minister Johnson pledged to “Get it Done”, MP Mark Garnier and County Council Leader Simon Geraghty have been constantly lobbying for the Government to prioritise sufficient funding. The £6.2m from Government will of course be added to the County Council’s allocation of £0.5m plus £20,000 Special Local Member’s contribution which I have committed; equalling £6.720m in total.

Local Issues:

Further to my recent emails to The Parish Clerk, I am pleased to confirm that during this week the new bollards installation for the verge at the entrance to Low Habberley Farm will commence. Also Highways Engineer Paul Green is close to confirming the necessary licences for your intended new Bus Shelters. Paul Green has also requested a search at the Highways HQ regarding the underground water tank near to Fountain Court. Severn Trent Water have been chased to attend to two issues outstanding: A). Eymore Lane, intentional water spillage.. B). the damaged Raised Manhole structure below Low Habberley. I am awaiting reaction from Highways regarding the reported issue of Glassy Tarmac caused by hot weather recently on the climb from Low Habberley to the Trimpley crossroads. I am liaising with Hollies Lane resident Mr Ron Collins on providing more photographic evidence on the rainwater flow. I have forwarded the Cables Survey Data received from Paul Green which do not confirm there to be a speeding issue; Highways will not proceed with any engineering solutions, or to engage Enforcement by the Safer Roads Partnership. Notwithstanding this you may wish to pursue the Community Speedwatch option and local Police officers who may help to provide a deterrent.”

District Issues: – Cllr. Harrison advised that the Local Plan return was imminent from Central Government ratification, and then the District will find out what modifications may be required. It was planned that the Inspector’s report will be going to District Cabinet Committee in the first half of October, and so a decision re full ratification of the Local Plan may be expected by the end of October.

8. **PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT CONTROL:**

- a) **New Planning applications: -**

21/0715/FUL Construction of an outdoor equestrian arena with post and rail fencing and drainage for private use (retrospective) at The Thresholds , Hoarstone Lane, Trimpley

Comment:

No objections.

21/0794/FUL Conversion of barn to one dwelling Location: Honeybrook Kennels , Bridgnorth Road, Kidderminster, DY11 5RR

Comment: None yet made. Clerk had requested deferment due to some anomalies in documentation of the application.

General comment was made that this may mark the end of the Clay Pigeon Shooting. Also a query was raised about the mobile home stationed on the site.

- b) **Update on Previous applications**

19/0754 – Retrospective application re COU to Swimming Pool at The Guildings

Eymore Lane, Trimpley – **Pending decision** (Cllr. C Jordan has expressed an interest)

21/0421 - Outline planning application (with all matters reserved except for means of access) for erection of up to 124 dwelling houses, including public open space and landscaping surface water attenuation and associated infrastructure at Habberley Lane, Low Habberley – **Pending decision**

21/0567 - Proposed Single Storey Rear Extension, Porch to Front and External Alterations, following removal of Existing Conservatory : 19 Habberley Lane, Low Habberley – **Approved**

21/0349 - Mixed use of land as a caravan site and use by permanent residential dwelling houses at Hill Farm, Northwood Lane, Bewdley – **Pending decision**

21/0551/HOU - Erection of open sided pergola - Hoarstone Court, Willow Lodge , Hoarstone Lane, Trimpley - **Approved**

Compliance Issues/Appeals –

Appeal Reference APP/R1845/W/20/3263496 - Conversion of former stable building to dwelling (Use Class C3), together with new vehicular access and closure of existing vehicular access (to pedestrian access only) Application Reference 20/0405/FUL. – As instructed, Clerk had submitted repeat of objections raised in respect of the application to the Appeal Inspector.

9. **Progress Reports and other Outstanding Items**

• **Highway Matters**

Parking on Grass Verge outside of Low Habberley Farm

Installation Target - 2nd Week of August

Councillor Hardiman had advised that installation will commence this week.

Sump at Rock Cutting, Hoarstone Lane

Date for work to be agreed by end of August

No known date advised as yet.

Hollies Lane Drainage

Date - none from County Council - Video footage required to be collected by Parish

Further video footage, affecting the A442, was sought showing the course of the water coming downhill, and leaving deposit on the A442. However, Mr. Collins was allowed to advised that he was unable to produce any better video than he had already done. Kerbing along the mouth of the lane was suggested, with a 6ft wide/6ft deep cattle grid type structure at the bottom on the lane. It was also suggested that a new pipe or bund be constructed on land at the Lodge. Mr. Collins again offered to meet with councillors and engineers on site to advise what he thought would be a workable solution.

Speed Cables in Low Habberley

Mean speeds recorded were 28mph eastbound, and 29mph westbound. Therefore no action would be taken by Highways or Safer Roads Partnership. Clerk was requested to publicise the results in the next Newsletter, and follow up the possibility of a Community Speedwatch Scheme.

Licences for Bus Shelters

Cllr. Hardiman stated that they will be advised shortly. Clerk had ordered two more shelters – price confirmation was awaited from Ade Williams who was checking timber costs. Mr. Williams had requested that pads be put down as soon as was possible, once sites had been finalised.

VA Signs and Pole Siting

Clerk had priced up the costs for new poles, and had been told that these would be £249(as 2 years ago) + 15% (due to shortage of steel) + VAT each. It was decided that the first course of action was to have the existing pole on Trimpley Green Common resited. Clerk to contact County with regard to this. It was agreed to put back purchase of a replacement panel until a new pole was sited to take the sign.

Village Gateway Structures

It was resolved to go ahead initially with the gateways for Low Habberley. Clerk to get licence permission from Pau Green at County Hall for the sites decided upon – which councillors wanted to be where the speed limit signs were. Clerk would cost up, and also send a plan with exact sites to County for permission to erect these.

Low Habberley Drainage

Clerk had sent documentation and a map to Cllr. Hardiman re the sump and soakaway beyond the lower car park at Fountain Court. Cllr Grainger suggested having a site meeting amongst councillors to survey the site.

Other Matters

• **Restoration Project – Black Pools** -

An e-mail had been received from Natural Networks asking for progress re the grant. Clerk had sent the letter with further permission form and SAE to Mrs. Briggs, but had received no reply. It was decided that Cllr. Phillips would contact Mrs. Briggs to discuss resiting of the VA Pole on the Common, and also ask about the permission form.

• **Clare Witnell Blount Charity** – No further progress.

• **Water Problems – Hill Farm** – now resolved.

10. **Lengthsman / Litter Collection and Footpath Clearance Matters**

a) Worksheets – tabled and approved for ROW Work and Lengthsman work

b) **Public Rights of Way Warden, and Recreational Route Warden** – No further news on appointment.

Cllr. Phillips asked if the Parish Council would fund the lengthsman strimming around Mount Pool (being careful of the Japanese Knotweed area). Clerk advised that this would have to be at the account of the Parish Council, and could not be put down as official lengthsman work. Cllr. Grainger also agreed to do some clearance in the area of the Marsh. It was agreed that the lengthsman should undertake the work again around Mount Pool.

11. Financial Reports –

a) Payments –

Chq 1132 – HMRC – Clerk’s PAYE - £75.80

Chq 1133 – S. Archer – Lengthsman’s Work - £252.00

Chq 1134 – S. Archer – Seasonal Growth Clearance - Rights of Way - £381.60

b) Internet Banking progress – Clerk had attempted to set up a standing order for the regular HMRC PAYE amount paid in relation to her salary. Unfortunately, HMRC would try to set up some standing orders for regular payments. Clerk to investigate making this by Direct Debit.

12. Worcestershire CALC Reports & County and District & other Correspondence – Localism

A discussion took place about the litter contract undertaken under Localism on behalf of the District Council, and the financial implications to the parish when this ended. Councillors felt that the litter bins in the parish were only used by visitors to the area. Most Councillors had never used one of the bins. In other parishes, the bins served to support local businesses in the parish, but that was not the case in Kidderminster Foreign. As such, if WFDC refused to take back responsibility for the litter collection, it was generally felt that it would be best to remove the bins entirely. One other scenario was briefly discussed in that perhaps a private group (maybe the Charity) could extend their litter collection scheme for the length of Eymore Lane, but not elsewhere in the parish. This would cover 4 bins – i.e. one at Eymore Lane junction, one in Mary Moors Layby, and two in the Arley Estate car park. This was felt to be a last case scenario, if Wyre Forest would not take back the service. But even that would be at a cost to the Parish = to be borne by the Parish Electorate – even though parishioners themselves rarely used the bins.

Clerk reminded councillors that Ian Miller / Helen Dyke had called a Zoom meeting at 5p.m. on 7th September to discuss the whole matter of Localism, and it was to be decided who should be in attendance to discuss this very contentious issue.

Clerk advised that the next Area CALC Meeting for Cllrs Grainger and Holford would be on 13th September – Clerk would send agenda and previous minutes closer to the date.

13. Road Accidents – None.

14. Other Matters

Date of Next meeting - After some discussion, on availability of Councillors, it was concluded that this should be Monday 27th September 2021. Clerk to ensure VH is booked. Cllr Holford expressed a wish that all possible efforts should be made to keep meetings on the regular 3rd Monday slot for sake of consistency.

The meeting closed at 9.25p.m.

Chairman :