

KIDDERMINSTER FOREIGN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

held in Trimpley Village Hall on Monday 17th January 2022 at 7.30pm

Present Councillor Mr. C. Jordan
Councillor Mr. J. Gammond
Councillor Mr. C. Grainger
Mrs E Whitehouse (Clerk)
No Police were in attendance.

Councillor Mr. C. Holford
Councillor Mr. B. Phillips
Councillor Mrs. S. Stone
4 members of the public were present.
C. Cllr. Ian Hardiman.

1. **Police Report –**

Clerk was instructed to advise the police of these three priorities for the next 3 months

- 1) Continuing with the general speed of vehicles around country lanes
- 2) Theft from garages and sheds in the parish
- 3) and connected with 2) the vandalism by subsequent broken rural gates, and shed doors etc.

2. **Public Open Forum**

Smooth and slippery road surface – on approach to Trimpley Crossroads – was again mentioned. Councillor Hardiman advised that the Highway Maintenance Manager had been requested to undertake physical remedial work

Local fly-tipping, and excessive amounts of rubbish left near to bins. Clerk to report.

Localism – Litter collection contract – this was again discussed, and the Council were urged not to take on this as a Parish responsibility, without funding being provided as under the current arrangement, from the District Council.

3. **Apologies For Absence:** Received and approved for Councillor Mrs. C Gammond and Cllr. J. Byng.

Cllr. Holford questioned whether we were acting within Council law in respect of Cllr. Mrs Gammond's long absence. Clerk advised that provided Councillors present, when presented with the apologies, approve the reason for the apologies, then Councillor Gammond's absence was legally approved. Clerk advised that despite her absence from meetings, Cllr. Gammond did work in the background in support of the Parish Council and the Clerk, particularly in respect of historical records.

4. **Declarations of Interest:** No new interests recorded.

5. **Approval of the Minutes** The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15th November 2021 were approved and signed.

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

"Wyre Forest Issues

The planning application for the proposed Quarry at Lea Castle, Wolverley, has still not been determined yet but it may be getting closer as it likely to go to either the February or March planning committee at WCC."

Strategic Issues County Wide

Cllr. Hardiman gave a lengthy report on the approved draft Budget for the County Council, and the implications thereof. This had been shared with all councillors."

Other issues on highways covered later in the meeting under Progress reports.

7. **PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT CONTROL:**

a) New Planning applications: -

21/1098/CLP Proposed detached garage & study: Friars Glade , Halls Farm Lane (C. Holford declaring an interest in this application notification for Information only)

21/1126/S73 - Variation to condition 2 of Planning application 19/0181/FULL

to allow changes to the design and layout Condition Number(s): 2 Conditions(s) Removal: Land Formerly Park Attwood, Trimpley Lane, Shatterford, (For information only)

Comment: No objections provided there is no further damage to wildlife or tree removal.

21/1091/Hou – Sunridge, Halls Farm Lane, Trimpley - Two storey front extension and alterations to fenestration

Comment: No objections.

21/1170/Ful – Communication Station – Upper Birch Farm. Doubling in height from 10m-20m + 3 Antennae, + 2 Dishes

Comment: No objections.

22/0005 – Upper Birch Farm – 60 x 20M covered Riding arena, Hay Storage Bay, Covered walkway from arena to Stable Block for 10 horses, WC Tack Room and Stores, and a covered horse walk

Comment: *"We are concerned about the large size of this development. Stabling for 10 horses, the very large covered riding arena (with blue roof?) and all the large ancillary buildings leads us to believe that this development is not just for "private use". We feel that the size of this development indicates that this will be for a commercial use related to horiculture/horse welfare. We also believe that this size will require a large amount of service traffic accessing the property to support this usage, and concern has been expressed to us by neighbouring properties re the increased traffic using this narrow country lane, and indeed the actual access to the property itself which is to be used. For these reasons we are unable to give support to this application."*

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) (Clerk had chased for a decision)

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

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

21/0850/FUL Demolition of existing buildings and erection of 4 new dwellings Location: Honeybrook Kennels , Bridgnorth Road,- **Pending decision**

c) 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. – **No decision yet received re appeal.**

Brick Structure in Roadside Verge at The Gables – Eymore Lane – still on roadside. Cones placed along the roadside to protect repairs to the verge will be removed.

d) **Local Plan** – Clerk advised that she had lodged (and had acknowledgement of) official comment from the Parish Council re the Main Modifications.

8. Progress Reports and other Outstanding Items

• Highway Matters

Parking on Grass Verge outside of Low Habberley Farm Two matching bollard(s) to close gap had not been installed correctly. These needed lifting and re-installing, or further bollards installed.

Sump at Rock Cutting, Hoarstone Lane – still not cleaned out. Engineer was inspecting again tomorrow.

Bus Shelters - Licences still not received, although these were no up on sites identified. Clerk had added the two new shelters to the insurance schedule.

VA Signs and Pole Siting – New solar panel and batteries had been received, and paid for. These would be fitted to the Sign to be reinstalled at Trimpley at the new pole site. It was felt by some that the sign at Low Habberley came on too late – i.e. it only operated when traffic was too close. It was agreed to check if this needed adjustment.

Low Habberley Drainage – The Sump by Fountain Court Low Habberley had been inspected and it was reported to Paul Green (Engineer) that the sump does not yet require emptying; however they have determined that there is a blockage between the street gullies and the sump and remedial works are being programmed to resolve this.

Grit Box (N098) near to Junction with Valley Close – This County Council grit box was reported as being cracked, and requiring replacing. Cllr Hardiman took details to implement this.

Hedges in Grey Green Lane – although not in this parish, it was reported that roadside hedges bordering this lane were so overgrown as to impede the passage of traffic – particularly high-sided vans. Clerk was requested to e-mail this problem to Paul Harrison and Bewdley Town Council.

Fire Hydrants in the Parish - Clerk advised that she had been notified that these were the responsibility of Severn Trent, although the Fire Service kept a record of the siting of hydrants. No regular maintenance schedule was known to exist, although faults could be reported.

Community housing – Valley Close – Clerk had assisted a private householder in Valley Close with reporting problems to Community Housing about lack of maintenance to some of their properties, adjacent to the householder, which was causing damp and other problems to the private house.

9. Lengthsman / Litter Collection and Footpath Clearance Matters

a) **Rights of Way –** Richard Roberts had informed the Council that there were a couple of problems in the Low Habberley area, including a fallen tree on the Habberley Valley Circular Path, which he had reported.

10. Financial Reports –

a) Budget Setting: Precept for 2022/23

It was unanimously **Resolved** to cut the Precept demand this year by 50% to assist parishioners through what has been a difficult time, and to offset predicted inflation in the coming year. This will also be possible due to the healthy reserves which the Parish Council has built up over recent years. Clerk was instructed to put in a Precept demand for £4745.

b) **Delegation –** Following a recent change in which payments have been made, **it is resolved** that power for regular and/or routine payments for functioning of the Parish council be delegated to the Clerk and the Chairman.

It is also resolved that wherever possible, all payments should receive prior approval at a Parish Council meeting, but where this is not possible (for example in times of pandemic and/or meeting problems), all payments made should be ratified at the next possible meeting. Clerk to provide a list for ratification.

c) **Payments recently made**, as the list below, were given full authorisation (albeit retrospectively)

Ade Williams – ¼ of Bus Shelter Invoice - £3187.50

Trimpley village Hall – Bin siting fee - £280

C. Bunn – for Resiting Pole, inc. Concrete Pads for Bus Shelters - £710

HMRC – Clerk's PAYE – 116.50

S. Archer – Lengthsman's Work - £456.00

Ade Williams – Balance for Bus shelters - £1062.50

Trimpley Village hall – Hire of Room to end December 21 - £133.30

Vinyl Fencing – Village Gateways for Low Habberley - £594

C. Bunn – re Installation of Gateways - £120

S. Archer – Lengthsman's Work - £192

Stocksigns – 2 Replacement Batteries for VA Sign - £184.80

Stocksigns – Replacement Solar Panel for VA Sign - £189.78

Furthermore Clerk supplied the following **list of payments to be made** (delegated to the Clerk and Chairman) immediately after the meeting:

PAYE for Clerk - £116.60

Clerk's Expenses - £102.90

January Newsletter –

Clerk had supplied a draft copy, which needed finalisation before printing and issue, which she would arrange shortly. The distribution allocation was somewhat out of date, and the Clerk would try to compile a new list of allocations for approval.

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

Localism – Parish Litter Contract – the proposal sent by the District Council to reduce, and ultimately terminate funding for this service undertaken on their behalf by the parish was unanimously rejected. It

was **Resolved** the following response should be sent:

"We wish to advise that, whilst the Parish Council are willing to arrange for litter picking and emptying of waste bins, they are only prepared to do so if the appropriate funds are made available to them. The Parish Council are not prepared to take over delegated responsibilities under section 89 of the Environment Protection Act 1990, or sign a formal delegation."

CALC Circular – It was **resolved** that the Clerk should sign, on behalf of this Parish Council, a petition being raised to change the law to allow Parish Councils to meet remotely.

Planning Training – Feedback – Attended by Cllrs. Mrs. Gammond, Mrs Stone, and C. Grainger, and partially by the Clerk. Slides from the meeting hosted by Head of Development Control Mr. Paul Round had been circulated. It was noted that the District Planning department relied heavily on local knowledge, and parish councils to advise any contraventions of planning which may be occurring. This is because they did not have sufficient staff to "police" planning contraventions. Cllr. Grainger advised that he had questioned the timing of the meeting, since being in the afternoon, Parish Councillors who worked were for the most part unable to attend the training. The point was noted by Mr. Round.

Worcestershire County Council – Draft Budget Proposals – on-line Engagement event – 26th Jan at 5.30pm – Cllr. Jordan (Chair) stated he would attend the Zoom meeting.

13. **Road Accidents – None.**

14. **Other Matters**

Clerk was requested to put : **Ideas and suggestions for Queen's Jubilee** – on agenda for next meeting, **Date of Next meeting** - Agreed for **Monday 21st February**.

Clerk queried the April Meeting date, as this fell on Easter Monday (third Monday of April), and it was decided to push the meeting for that month back one week to Monday 25th April. Clerk would contact Village Hall to make changes to the room booking.

The meeting closed at 10.00p.m.

Chairman :