

KIDDERMINSTER FOREIGN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting

held in Trimpley Village Hall on Monday 20th March 2023 at 7.30pm

Present Councillor Mr. J. Gammond
Councillor Mr. C. Holford
Councillor Mrs C Gammond
Councillor Mr. C Grainger
Mrs E Whitehouse (Clerk)
Councillor Mr. B. Phillips
Councillor Mrs S. Stone
Councillor Mr. C. Jordan
District Councillor J. Byng
3 members of the public were present.

1. **Welcome + Public Open Forum**

Low Habberley Proposed Development. – A member of the public stated that he understood that if an area was taken out of Green Belt then an area equivalent, or better, should be replaced. There appears to have been nothing specified to be put in place of the area proposed for the development at Low Habberley.

Furthermore – an amount of £147,000 was mentioned to be put forward for infrastructure improvements. Could the parish council ask that this is a cost to the developer and not the local electorate? The member of public stated that he had asked 4 different Wyre Forest Officers about this, but had not received a satisfactory reply.

Trimpley Crossroads – The Parish Council were asked that, despite the County Council response that the slippery surface on approach to Trimpley Crossroads was not a priority, and that funds could not be found to address this, could they please keep this matter under periodic review.

Police Report : Police were unable to attend. They advised that there was little activity of note.

Although a Community Speed check scheme had been mooted for Low Habberley, when the practicalities of the scheme – including possible reprisals from members of the public found to be speeding, and the amount of paperwork, and checks to be made on people to operate the scheme. Therefore the scheme had not really got off the ground.

2. **Blount Charity** (Formerly Clare Witnell Blount)

Cllr. Jordan was attempting to find out some information. It was reported that the Charity was still not being run well. The Clerk to the Charity had resigned last June. Contact had been made with the new Clerk but no report had been provided for this Parish Council, and neither was there a representative for the Parish Council to attend the Charity meetings. One property owned by the Charity has been empty for almost 12 months now and is deteriorating in condition. Cllr. C Jordan was attempting to get improvements to this situation, and would report in the future on progress.

3. **Any other Matters** - There were no other matters raised for the Annual Parish Meeting.

The above meeting was immediately followed by the Parish Council Meeting

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3 members of the public were present.

1. **Apologies For Absence:** Received and approved from C. Councillor Ian Hardiman and Dist. Cllr. P. Harrison.

2. **Declarations of Interest/Dispensations:** Interests as previously minuted. Also Cllr. B Phillips declared an interest in 23/0177/HOU - Single storey side extensions: Paynes Cottage, Eymore Wood Lane.

3. **Approval of the Minutes** The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held Monday 20th February 2023 were approved and signed.

4. **County and District Councillors' Reports –**

Report from County Councillor Ian Hardiman -

Traffic Speeds in Trimpley Lane, Shatterford Area:

Whilst results have been recorded, I am awaiting clarification on this from Highways and have chased this again today.

Dead Tree, Hoarstone Lane:

I will proceed with investigation when clear identification of the tree in question is received.

Valley Close signage to the Valley:

I have not received an update from WFDC but will chase if this has not been resolved yet.

Roadside Wall School Lane Junction:

I reported this last month but have yet to receive an update; I will chase this week as I shall be meeting with the Highways Engineer.

Report from District Councillors – Councillor Byng reported concerning enforcement matters at Hill Farm/Mary Moors. A visit to the site had been made in early March, and 4 caravans had been moved from Hill Farm to Mary Moors. Temporary permission existed for just two caravans. It was also confirmed that roofing works at the Hill Farm buildings was now being done.

5. **PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT CONTROL:**

a) New Planning applications: -

22/0927/FUL Change of Use to Form Holiday Let. Location: Old Pumping Station, Trimpley Lane, Shatterford – Revised plans received

Comment:

The parking situation is still dangerous, and we would reiterate, and we would ask that ghighways actually visit the site. Width of tge parking space is totally inadequate for the width of a modern car.

(Councillor B. Phillips left the room at this point)

23/0177/HOU - Single storey side extensions: Paynes Cottage, Eymore Wood Lane, Trimpley,

Comment: Development and modernisation of this property is welcomed and we would offer no objections.

(Councillor Phillips re-joined the meeting)

b) **Update on Previous applications**

22/0300/HOU Part demolition and remodelling of existing farmhouse, including the addition of integrated garages, balcony and swimming pool area - Park Attwood Farm, Trimpley Ln. Shatterford - **Application marked as approved on website – but no decision notice yet received, so Clerk downloaded from website.**

22/0942/HOU - Single storey side/rear extension at 13 Habberley Lane, Low Habberley – **Pending Decision**

23/0101 TPO Cherry – Fell and replace – Park Attwood Site - 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.**

Appeal Reference APP/R1845/W/21/3281433 - Northwood Farm , Northwood Lane, - Change of use - Agricultural to Dog Breeding Kennels(21/0029) - Clerk had submitted the same comments to the appeal Inspector as were submitted to application 21/0029.- **No decision yet received re appeal.**

Appeal Reference APP/R1845/W/22/3309021 - Land At Os 381000 277300, Habberley Lane, Low Habberley, Kidderminster. Description of Development Outline planning application (with all matters reserved except for means of access) for erection of up to 124 dwellinghouses, including public open space and landscaping surface water attenuation and associated infrastructure Application Reference 21/0421/OUT

Clerk had lodged a comment asking that our comment from the original application be considered, and also a request to be reconsulted, if the appeal is allowed, on the mix of housing proposed.

Hill Farm / Mary Moors matters – As reported by Councillor Byng, the unauthorised residential caravans had not been removed, and were still on site. District Council were continuing with enforcement proceedings. It transpires that the homes are being moved from one farm site to the other on an on-going basis.

Low Habberley Housing Development – A strong and visual protest had been held on site against this development, which was reported in the Kidderminster Shuttle.

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

Highway Matters

- **Hoarstone Lane Surface repairs** – White lines – now done.
- **Broken Manhole, below Low Habberley:** - . Email received from Severn Trent stating it was definitely not their cover. Clerk had referred back (with photo provided by Cllr. Stone) to County Council.
- **Valley Close – Road Surface** – now complete. With regard to the sign removal, as reported by Cllr. Hardiman, this was being attended to, but was not yet done.
- **Noticeboards – Crundalls Lane and locks on boards at Low Habberley** - It was agreed that the noticeboard from Low Habberley on the sharp bend should be removed (as one noticeboard was sufficient for the village) and this should be resited at Crundalls Lane. Clerk to contact Mr. C. Bunn for a quote for this, and ask him to liaise with Cllr. Grainger to do this work.
- **Speed of Vehicles on Local Roads** – Awaiting positioning of wires on Trimpley Lane.
- **Eymore Wood Forestry Scheme – Meeting with Arley Estate and Bronwins** – Some concern was expressed about some of the felling taking place. Bronwins have asked for patience to see the beneficial outcomes expected from the work being done. However, it was thought that some of the felling already undertaken – e.g. Large Chestnuts near to Huntsfield – was unnecessary. Also some concern was also expressed about some large oaks which were scheduled for felling.
- **Broken BT Cover – near to Eymore Lane Arley Estate Car Park** – Although broken, this had been repositioned by Cllr. C Grainger, and it was hoped that this would suffice to take away the danger to traffic.
- **Roadside Wall at junction of School Lane, Trimpley** – Clerk had reported this on the hub for repair by the County Council.
- **Blocked Drains – Low Habberley** – It was reported that some drains were still blocked, resulting in flooding further down Habberley Lane. County Council investigating.

7. **Standing Orders** Each councillor had received a copy of the revised document. It was **resolved** to formally adopt the 2023 version provided.

8. **Election Documentation** - Clerk gave each councillor a pack containing a diarised event calendar for the forthcoming election, and also a hard copy nomination form for their use.

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

a) **Approval sought for any Lengthsman worksheet received and circulated** - Clerk advised that there was £560 left in the budget to claim from the County Council. It was resolved that if further worksheets were received before 31/3/2023, that with approval from councillors, the Clerk and Chair could pass any sheets received for payment and reimbursement.

b) **Lengthsman – 2023/2024 work arrangements and contract** – Clerk would write this week confirming that the contract with Messrs. Archer for both the Lengthsman work and the ROW Clearance would not be renewed for 2023/24. She had not received any confirmation from County Hall in respect the grant allowed for either of these functions. She would also confirm to Messrs. Archer that the parish would not be undertaking the litter collection service from April 2023 onwards. Clerk also to cancel the standing order paid monthly to Messrs Archer for this service

c) **Notification to Wyre Forest DC** re removal of litter bins in the parish – Clerk to request that Wyre Forest undertake a timely removal of the litter bins in the parish.

10. **Financial Reports –**
a) **Ratification of payments to be made –**
To include any invoice presented and approved for the lengthsmen
E. Whitehouse – Clerk's Expenses - £134.58; Vision ICT – Website hosting Annual Fee - £161.26
Nominated Councillor to log in to ratify electronic payments this month - Chris J.
Delegated approval confirmed for the Chair and Clerk to authorise final payment to lengthsmen up to £560 for any worksheet received prior to 31/3/2023
11. **Newsletter Items** – Clerk was provided with several items to include in the April Newsletter.
12. **Worcestershire CALC Reports & County and District & other Correspondence –**
Wyre Forest/CALC/Parish Forum Meeting – 16th March. Attended by Cllrs. C Holford and Mrs. S. Stone.
Report from Cllr. Sue Stone
- “18 attended (including Chris Wayman)
 - Clerk training well attended subsequently 5 new clerks were appointed last fortnight
 - Now working with other counties (Shropshire, Warwickshire and Herefordshire)
 - North Worcestershire Police Commander attended (Didn't catch her name!) Speaking about Local Policing Charter
 - There are 6 key issues, Commitment, Visibility, Public Concerns, Building relationships and Vulnerability (didn't get the 6th!)
 - Spoke about the fact that we should all be publicising Neighbourhood Matters, a website that keeps us in touch with local matters.
 - I tried to join the above website but apparently my mobile phone number was invalid!
 - Spoke about Speedwatch, one Parish Council was very happy with it but one other had exactly the same problem as I had, i.e. adverse repercussions.
 - She told us that Police Attendance at our PC meetings should amount to one per quarter. Unfortunately lack of staffing prevented more.”
- 20 IS PLENTY.** Report by Cllr. Holford, who attended the evening Zoom meeting (but only 13 people attended). He found the meeting to be a little political, but that the 20mph limit was not suitable for this parish. He stated that the best way forward would be educating drivers on best practice for rural driving, as there were no areas where such a limit could work in this parish. It may be workable in urban areas, (and around schools) but the police have largely said that such limits are unenforceable, and if a blanket 20mph limit was set up then motorists would rebel against this in any case.
13. **Road Accident Record**
In recent snowy weather, a White Van had slid off the road near to the entrance to Park Attwood.
14. **Other Matters**
Reminder of Mad March Hare - Clerk reminded Councillors of the reported Cycle Event reported as coming through Trimpley on Sunday 26th March.

Litter collection group – It was reported that there were a group of volunteer parishioners who had joined together to form a litter picking group to go on regular sorties. Cllr. Holford asked if they could be allowed to use the litter picking sticks which the Parish had purchased, and it was agreed that this was acceptable.

Next meeting: confirmed as **Monday 17th April 2023.**

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Chairman :