

KIDDERMINSTER FOREIGN PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council
held on Monday 20th January 2020 at 7.30pm at Trimpley Village Hall

Present Councillor Mrs. C. Gammond Councillor Mr. J. Gammond
 Councillor Mr. C. Grainger Councillor Mr. B. Phillips
 Councillor Mrs. L. Green Councillor Mr. G. Yarranton
 Councillor Mr. C Jordan *District Cllr. P Harrison*
 Mrs E Whitehouse (Clerk) *District Cllr. J. Byng*
 PCSO Nathan Chater Officer in attendance *5 members of the public present*

1. **Police Report** –

Only thing of note in the past month had been a dog sheep worrying in local field. Cllr.L. Green gave details of a serious accident in Low Habberley, and asked the police questions about how this would be handled. Cllr. Yarranton asked the police if the accident would be logged, and the officer stated that it would be, despite there being no personal injury. It was reported by a member of the public that the Police had put notice up which impedes the line of sight to the left on exiting from Hollies Lane. The officer in attendance state that they would take a look at this to see if a better site could be found for the notice.

Smartwater – Clerk was awaiting data on the take-up in the parish, and nationally. Meantime, as requested, she had fed back opinion of Councillors concerning the new “We don’t Buy Crime” signs, a copy of which had been e-mailed. It was felt that the background, being much darker, would not be so prominent in dark country areas. As such, a request was made that our old signs should remain, and not be replaced by the new signs by local police.

Public Open Forum

Bus Shelter

A member of the public asked if consideration could be given to provision of a new shelter, at the Eymore Lane junction. There had been shelters provided there in the past, but these had been vandalised, and it had been decided not to replace at that time. It was also suggested that shelters were needed at the top of Halls Farm Lane, and also in Low Habberley near to Fountain Court. Clerk was asked to get prices and quotations for consideration.

In the meantime, it was also drawn to the attention of the Council that there was a considerable step up onto the bus for anyone with mobility issues at the Eymore Lane stop, and Councillors indicated that they would have a look at levelling this.

2. **Apologies For Absence:** None

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Cllr Mrs. C. Gammond and Cllr. J. Gammond declared interests, being members of the Village Hall committee. Cllr. Grainger declared an interest in any item concerning Riddings Brook. Cllr Mr. C. Jordan declared a non-pecuniary interest in planning application 19/0745, as did Cllr. Mrs L Green in planning application 20/0024 – as they were both respective neighbours of the applications in question.

4. **Approval of the Minutes** The minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16th December 2019 were approved and signed.

5. **District and County Councillor Reports - inc. progress reports on other matters**

Items reported for attention by District & County Councillor and other matters arising.

District Cllr. John Byng -) Had been approached by resident in Northwood Lane about utilising the Phone Box at that location to site a defibrillator. It was thought that money in the form of grants would be available for this. Councillors advised that they thought that Severn Valley Railway had also expressed an interest in preserving the box (for heritage purposes) but it was confirmed that the Parish Council had decided not to preserve the box, leaving it to others who may be interested in this.

District Cllr. Paul Harrison -) Clerk asked the District Councillors if Localism money was still available for 2019/20 for projects, and who to contact to apply for this. It was thought that Jo Lange would be the officer to contact for Localism matters.

County Councillor Ian Hardiman: - No report submitted.

6. **PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT CONTROL:**

a) **New Planning applications:** -

19/0745 - Retrospective change of use of former swimming pool to workshop (B1c) at THE GUILDINGS, EYMORE WOOD LANE, TRIMPLEY, BEWDLEY, DY12 1PG (Deferred from December for further information) (Cllr Jordan had previously declared an interest –see above).

Following the December meeting, where a neighbour had given a presentation with pictures

showing her objections to the application, the Clerk had requested the planning officer to obtain further information from the applicant, and she read out the responses to questions which had been posed to the applicant.

A lengthy discussion ensued between all councillors, and the Chair allowed a neighbour of the applicant, and the applicant's architect (who had identified himself to the Chair at the start of the meeting) to clarify various points, and to give their views. Following the exchange of views and discussion on information available, the clerk was requested to formulate a comment of approval, but with conditions. The final comment below was formulated from the discussions held at the meeting but without input from Cllr. C Jordan who had expressed a non-pecuniary interest in the application.

(Cllr. Jordan left the meeting at this point and rejoined a few minutes later when the following application was being discussed and gave no comment re his departure).

Comment:

"We are disappointed and feel somewhat let down that this application has taken so long to be lodged, considering that a neighbour first expressed concerns about this development in 2015 to the Enforcement officers and Planning Officers at the District Council.

Despite this being a very late retrospective application, which we do not condone, we would, however, recommend approval, but only with strict conditions to be applied, in order to address intrusive concerns expressed by neighbouring property, as we are supportive of this local rural industry. We would recommend that these conditions should be as follows:

- *The workshop and business currently being operated from the building should be strictly tied to the dwelling known as The Guildings, and not separated off or sold away at any time from the dwelling house, and the nature of the business – i.e. bespoke rural furniture making – should not alter without permission.*

- *The property has a field access in the ownership of the applicant, located just above the current shared drive. For business traffic use, we would recommend that a new consolidated access track is made across this field from the workshop to the gate access on the lane, and that this driveway track and access should be properly constructed with the necessary obligatory visibility splays to each side on exit to the lane. This would separate domestic traffic from the business traffic which is currently and inappropriately in our view using the shared access drive. The only other solution to business traffic using the same access would be some sort of screening down the access drive against the boundary side of Guildings Lodge, but we do not feel that this would be acceptable to either party.*

- *There should be strict operating times of work of the business – in order to minimise noise nuisance at inappropriate times of the day, or days of the week – e.g. weekends.*

- *Dust Guards should be fitted to all machines used at the premises, and dust extraction units properly fitted and maintained, and subject to inspections by Factory Inspectors, to comply with Health and Safety regulations.*

- *Window shutters fitted to windows facing the neighbouring property should be used at all times in hours of darkness in order to minimise light nuisance.*

- *We understand that the business has developed over the last few years. If the business expands further (which the applicant advises will not happen) we feel that it would be unsuitable for this location and these premises, and we feel that alternative premises would need to be sought. In other words, the parish council would not wish to see unrestricted expansion, and could not support unlimited expansion at this location, and feel that a condition should be imposed to this effect."*

19/0813/FULL Single storey front extension, roof extension and glazed Balustrade BERNLEA ROAD MEADOW NORTHWOOD LANE BEWDLEY DY12 1AT

Comment: No objections and recommend approval

20/0024 19 HABBERLEY LANE LOW HABBERLEY KIDDERMINSTER Installation of dropped kerb and driveway to front (Cllr. Mrs. L. Green had previously declared an interest – being a neighbour - see above)

Comment: No objections and recommend approval.

b) Update on Previous applications

19/0718 - Two storey rear extension at WOODBOROUGH, NORTHWOOD LANE, BEWDLEY, DY121AW

Permission granted.

19/0744 - Single storey side extension at 25 HABBERLEY LANE, LOW HABBERLEY, KIDDERMINSTER, DY115RA

Permission granted.

19/0768 – Pitched roof over existing garage and erection of detached garage/workshop building at FRIARS GLADE, HALLS FARM LANE. TRIMPLEY, DY12 1NP

Application had been withdrawn.

With regard to planning permission **18/0461 Dosing building at Severn Trent Water**, Clerk advised that she had received a “confirmation of compliance” in respect of planning conditions concerning Building Materials, Noise specifications, Planting Plan, Environmental Management, and Lighting Plan.

c) Compliance Issues/Appeals

Easter Cottage – The appeal was heard as a public inquiry on 7th January at 10.00am at Wyre Forest House. The inspector’s decision is expected in approx. 5 weeks’ time.

d) Proposed housing development – Low Habberley

TPO for roadside oak – Clerk had been advised tht TPO applications had been lodged on 5 roadside oak trees that bordered the housing development site. Clerk displayed the position of the selected trees. No final decision on this had yet been notified.

(Cllr. J. Gammond left the meeting at this point, and rejoined it again in a few minutes when the following item was being discussed – and gave no reason for his departure).

e) I-DOX New Planning System

Clerk advised that she had attended training on 14th January on the new Planning System at Wyre Forest District Council which was due to go live on their website on 22nd January. The system was fairly self-explanatory, and would also impact on the public viewing plans on the website. If guidance was required, the Clerk would be happy to offer this to Councillors.

f) Hill Farm Chalets

The clerk had compiled a list of every property featuring on the electoral role as having residents who had registered. This was higher than the number given by the Financial department at Wyre Forest, as paying full Council Tax, but much lower than the actual number of chalets. The Chairman tabled a number which she had counted as being actual chalets. No further progress was reported on this, and it was agreed by all that it seemed virtually impossible to police. The chair advised that, to the best of her knowledge, some of the chalets only had occupancy allowed from April to October inc.

7. Progress Reports and other Outstanding Items

• **CCTV – deployment by Parish Councils to counter flytipping** – Clerk had again reported flytipped rubbish in the Arley Estate carpark in Eymore Lane, which it was believed had been removed. She had also reported flytipping near the rear of the garages at Valley Close. Cllr. Jordan stated that he would erect a camera in the Arley Estate Car Park, it being private land.

• **VA Signs** – As requested the Clerk had reported the catalogue of reasons why these had not yet been installed, not least of which was the use of the poles purchased by this Parish for installation elsewhere in the County by County Engineers. She would continue to chase. Clerk to remind Paul Green (highways engineer) that he had promised to provide concrete pads for the old signs and firm up existing speed limit signs.

• **Highway Matters -** Reports logged on the Hub:

795280 – Northwood Lane – drainage) Both of these were logged in November, but not

795281 – Flooding below Little Gains) inspected until 13th January, and jetting not yet done.

- Flooding opposite Bite Farm Entrance

822122 – pothole in Hoarstone Lane

821964 – Blocked gully Hoarstone Lane.

Clerk had also asked for the **Drainage chamber by the Old Fountain Inn to receive the regular maintenance** promised, but nothing further had been received on this matter.

Hollies Lane – No report produced from site visit of November. This matter was raised by a member of the public. To date there had not been any remedial works done.

Crundalls Lane – Councillor Grainger reported that the posts of the barrier, erected a few years ago, to stop cars plummeting into a deep ditch on this lane, had rotted through. Clerk had reported this – Hub Ref 820649

8. White Village Entrance Gates

Agenda item from Cllr. L. Green

Clerk had obtained a catalogue and price list from Glasdon for consideration by councillors. Clerk was tasked with requesting Localism funding to assist with purchase. After much discussion it was decided not to install Village Entrance Gates, but to look at providing bus shelters – one at Eymore junction (at the same site as previously used), one at the top of Halls Farm Lane, and one in Low Habberley near to Fountain Court. Clerk would try to obtain quotations for supply and installation, but advised that in at least 2 of the sites mentioned, permission would be required from the County Council to install.

9. Lengthsman, Footpath work & Litter collection & Footpath Clearance.

Worksheets were tabled for Lengthsman Work on the roads, and Footpath Clearance.

Footpath Grant – to be placed on agenda for the next meeting.

It was noted that Arley Estate had undertaken felling of a considerable number of oaks, and also that a bridge on a footpath in Eymore Wood had almost washed away.

10. **Financial Reports –**

a) Payments –

Chq 1059 – S Archer – Lengthsman's Work - £561

Chq 1060 - HMRC – Clerk's PAYE - £69.60

b) Current Balance Sheet –

Clerk tabled balanced accounts as at the end of December 2019.

11. **Newsletter** – was not tabled at the meeting for Distribution. Cllr. Phillips stated that he would deliver copies to each councillor and the clerk when he received these.

12. **Worcestershire CALC Reports and Notices**

Clerk advised she had a number of training sessions available if anyone was interested in this.

13. **County and District and other Correspondence -**

Worcestershire Minerals Local Plan

Clerk advised she had received notification of the 5th call for sites. Promotion/submission of a site could be made between 16th January – 13th March. Sites already proposed would still be under consideration.

Volunteer and Skills Fair

This will take place again between 10a.m. and 2p.m. in Kidderminster Town Hall on Thursday 26th March. Details and application forms to take part could be found on WFDC website, and applications needed to be submitted by Friday 14th February 2020.

Severn Trent Community Fund – due to lack of time, it was decided to place this on the Agenda for the February meeting for the tabling of any ideas.

14. **Road Accidents** – 22/12/19 3.30p.m. A car had mounted the kerb at Low Habberley (racing against another) and had demolished a telegraph pole and a fence. No injury accidents, but considerable damage to property, and damage to a parked car. Police were in attendance.

15. **Date of Next Meeting** – confirmed as **17th February at 7.30p.m**

Meeting closed at 10.10p.m.

Chairman :