

**Border Group Parish Council**  
**Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on**  
**Tuesday 11th December 2013 at 7.30pm in Lingen Village Hall.**

**Present**

Councillors: John Miles (Chairman), Geoff Bevan, Maggie Brown, Steve Chilman, Philip Morris, Richard Ruell, Simon Whiteman, Clerk Maureen Robinson

**In attendance:** 1 member of the public

Andrew Gray (Responsible Financial Officer)

**1. Apologies for absence** were accepted from: Cllr Clive Gurney, Cllr Susan Harley, Ward Cllr Olwyn Barnett, Mike Oliver (Footpaths Officer) PCSO Adam Harris

**2. Declarations of Interest and written requests for dispensations:** There were none.

**3. Open Session**

3.1 PCSO Harris gave his apologies and emailed Clerk to say no incidents to report

3.2 No report available

3.3 The Chairman circulated a letter of thanks from the winner of the History Prize at Wigmore school (donated by BGPC). He also reported that the next meeting with Mill Cottage at Paytoe would now take place in January. The Chairman fed back details of the meeting with Balfour Beatty on 21st November at Brockhampton – the main item being plans to recruit ‘Locality Managers’ who would be the local link with Balfour Beatty and hopefully result in increased responsiveness and accountability for residents.

3.4 None raised

**4. Minutes of the previous meeting – 11th December 2013**

The minutes were APPROVED and signed by the Chairman

**5. Finance**

**1.1 RFO’s Monthly Report.**

Current a/c - £5,741.69

Highways a/c - £2,143.24

P3 a/c - £1,366.46

RFO identified the following payments/receipts which were ACCEPTED and cheques raised:

5.1.2 £30 – to Lingen Methodist Church for mowing churchyard

5.1.3 £30 -to Birtley Church for mowing churchyard

5.1.4 £30 – to Adforton Church for mowing churchyard

5.1.5 £59.41. – Clerk’s expenses

5.2 **Precept** – following discussion it was provisionally AGREED to maintain the Precept at £7,500 for 2014/15 as expenditure has remained broadly the same over last 2 years

## **6. Planning - to consider comments to Herefordshire Council on the following applications – none received**

### **7. Neighbourhood Plan**

7.1 There will be a meeting between members of the Steering group and Dave Tristram (Herefordshire Council) on 28th January to finalise the grant application. The next funding window will open in February '14 and no further meetings are planned until funding is secured. The Chairman asked the Parish Council for a vote of continuing support in drawing up a Neighbourhood Plan and this showed the majority in favour with one abstention.

7.2 The draft NP budget was discussed, agreed in principle and will now be finalised and brought to January PC meeting.

7.3 NP Questionnaire – there was much discussion over the best way to create this and how to evaluate responses. The majority felt that skills within the steering group should be harnessed before looking to outside agencies. Wigmore Parish recently appointed a consultant to review their questionnaire and it was AGREED that the Clerk should find out who this is and the cost

**Minutes/other information from any NP meetings will be made available on lingenweb and the BGPC website - [www.bordergroup-pc.org](http://www.bordergroup-pc.org) - where a separate page has been set up for easy access to information around NP**

### **8. Highways**

8.1 P3 – No work currently underway on Parish footpaths

8.2. Blocked access between A4110 and B4530 - response from Land Registry indicates the land in question has not been registered. Advice from Land Agent to Cllr Whiteman indicated that a solicitor needed to be consulted. The Clerk contacted a local firm who were sceptical about both the chances of success –given we have no deeds and cannot easily demonstrate ownership-and whether it was the remit of BGPC to be registering land in what, in their opinion, was a dispute between individuals. Herefordshire Council as the Highway Authority would have the power to act but their officer has so far failed to come up with any viable solution. It was AGREED that the Clerk should contact Herefordshire Council's legal dept and also Lynda Wilcox as the suggestion of BGPC registering the land had originally come from HALC

8.3 Traffic speed through Walford – no developments

8.4 Work undertaken by Lengthsman – opening of grips to facilitate water flow in Paytoe, Adleymoore and Brampton Bryan. It was re-iterated that ditches by the roadside are deemed to be the responsibility of the landowner who should make regular checks to ensure they are not silted up

**9. Information Sheet – Members noted the Information Sheet.**

**10. Matters raised for the next meeting agenda: None**

There being no further business the Chairman closed the Meeting at 8.25pm

**SIGNED** ..... **DATE** .....