

**Border Group Parish Council**  
**Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on**  
**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2015 at 7.30p at Adforton Community Hall.**

**Present:**

Councillors: Geoff Bevan, Maggie Brown, Steve Chilman ( Chair), Clive Gurney, Susan Harley, Simon Whiteman

**In attendance:**

Clerk Maureen Robinson  
Ward Cllr Roger Phillips  
Responsible Financial Officer Andrew Gray  
3 members of the public

**1.Apologies for absence** were accepted from: Cllrs Morris and Ruell, Footpaths Officer Mike Oliver, PCSO Pete Knight

**2. Declarations of Interest and written requests for dispensations: None**

No requests for dispensations

**3. Open Session – brief verbal reports received from:**

3.1 PCSO Knight – not present

3.2 Ward Cllr Roger Phillips – Roger reported that the recent Chair and Clerks’ meeting for Mortimer Ward had been very productive. Geoff Hughes from Herefordshire Council had attended and agreed to pursue some long- standing issues affecting our patch.

Roger said the Rural Crime event at Luctonians had been well attended with the main message one of deterrence. Our area remains low in crime which is reassuring. Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March would see the final cabinet meeting of the current administration with issues around older people’s housing, budget and future cuts, residential care for children and young people ( ideally with more in foster care) and a reduction in the fees the Council pays to care homes.

3.3 Cllr Whiteman gave feedback from the Rural Crime Meeting and reported that the Neighbourhood Watch scheme would be coming to an end with the emphasis on the Rural Crime Initiative ‘Stop that Thief’ which has already generated a lot of interest locally

3.4 A member of the public raised the state of the railings by the road side in Lingen and was advised Balfour Beatty had been notified.

**4. Minutes of the previous meeting – 17<sup>th</sup> February 2015**

These were APPROVED and signed by the Chairman with the following amendment under 3.2 Open Session: ‘...**approval had been given for NON- MATERIAL AMENDMENTS for Reeves Hill windfarm....**’

**5. Finance**

5.1 RFO provided a report showing current bank balances and identified the following payments which were ACCEPTED and cheques raised:

5.2 AGREED to pay Clerk’s expenses £77.99

5.3 AGREED to pay £20 for hire of Brampton Bryan VH

5.4 AGREED to pay £683.11 to Joe Thomas (P3 Footpaths)

5.5 AGREED to pay £801.90 to Joe Thomas (P3 Footpaths)

5. Annual Audit of Accounts – the end of year forms have been received from Grant Thornton. An Internal Auditor is still required. Clerk to enquire how much HALC charge for this

## 6. Planning - to consider comments to Herefordshire Council on the following applications:

6.1 None received this month.

**6.2 Standing item ref use of Sec 106 monies in respect of Home Farm, Lingen Ref DCNW/2008/3016/F, 113046/F** – awaiting an update from Yvonne Coleman, Planning Obligations Officer. Geoff Hughes has agreed to investigate further

## 7. Neighbourhood Plan

7.1 The Core Strategy has been halted by the inspector pending further investigation. Any changes could mean an increase in development sites across Border Group than previously identified. There will be a further consultation period ( till 22<sup>nd</sup> May). No more meetings planned.

It was reported that feedback on our NP on the website had been taken down following advice from the consultant that it was possible to identify respondents. Should anyone require a hard copy of this information please contact the Clerk.

**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 (footpaths) – .no more work planned currently

8.2 Access between A4110 and B4530 – no issues to report.

8.3 Lengthsman - no work planned

8.4 Junction of C1001 and A4113 – quote for work to reduce height of wall in region of £3,500.

8.5 New grit bins -**AGREED** to leave on agenda, no decision made.

8.6 Road defects at Pedwardine Cottages– response from BB indicated it was a low priority but has been logged for inspection

8.7 Reeves Lane drainage issues – waiting for a date for a site meeting between Powys and BB drainage team

**9. Arrangements for grass cutting 2015** – much discussion over whether costs can be justified versus the visual impact of fewer cuts. A member of the public objected strongly to cutting grass on ‘owned’ land. A compromise was reached which entailed reducing the number of cuts for 15/16. This will be reviewed again next year. It was **AGREED** to ask the lengthsman how much he would charge as current contractor’s rates remain unchanged. It was also suggested parishioners could be asked for their views at the Annual Parish Meetings in May as any work will have to be paid for out of the Precept.

**10. BGPC website** – it was **AGREED** that Cllr Brown would take over the running of the website as Cllr Ruell is not standing for election. The Council recorded thanks to Rich for getting the website up and running and for all his hard work. It was **AGREED** that the website would be reviewed to ensure all information was current and reflected best practice as to its content, links etc. (Cllr Brown provided a list of items to be added/updated)

**11. Defibrillator for Lingen VH** – waiting to hear re costs/ supplier from Wigmore PC who provided one from PC funds. It was suggested that First Responders may be able to advise

**12. The Old Chapel, Adforton** – it was **AGREED** the Clerk should write to the owner expressing concern and asking him to confirm his plans

**13. To discuss proposed Mortimer Trail** – it was **AGREED** to send a letter of support to the Mortimer History Society as requested.

**14. Information Sheet** -Members noted the Information Sheet.

**15. To raise items for next agenda:** Annual Parish Meetings, Annual Meeting of the PC, Approval of the Annual Accounts

There being no further business the Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.30 p.m

Signed..... Date.....