

**Border Group Parish Council**  
**Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on**  
**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2016 at 7.30p.m at Brampton Bryan Village Hall.**

**Present:**

Councillors: Phillip Barnett, Maggie Brown, Steve Chilman, Paul Derrick, Clive Gurney (Chair), Trevor Pritchard, John Walker, Simon Whiteman,

**In attendance:**

Clerk Maureen Robinson  
Responsible Financial Officer Andrew Gray  
Ward Cllr Carole Gandy  
1 member of the public

**1. Apologies for absence** were accepted from: Cllr Harley

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

No requests for dispensations

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

3.1 Ward Cllr Carole Gandy – Cllr Gandy reported that HC will raise Council Tax to 1.9% which will increase revenue by £1.6 million. Balfour Beatty will receive £1.6 million in 16/17, down from £1.65 million last year. £800, 000 will be spent on A and B and C and U roads respectively with £33,000 spent on footpaths. With regard to road resurfacing, only Letchmore Lane has been included this year on our patch. Parishes will continue to receive funding for the Lengthsman in 16/17 but it will be reduced by 25%. Parishes will have to make a mandatory contribution towards the Lengthsman from 17/18 and there will be no funding from 18/19. The P3 grant ((footpaths) will continue until 19/20. The recent Governance Consultation was discussed with most Parishes locally opting not to change or join with others – apart from Stapleton. This review takes place every 10 years to ensure that Parishes continue to reflect the local population e.g that there has not been any large scale development which may ‘skew’ a particular area.

Cllr Gandy reported that all the units at the Enterprise Zone at Rotherwas had been successfully let in Block A and 2 units in Block B. HC were trying to attract more businesses to Herefordshire with reliable Broad band connection recognised as a priority. A proposal to adopt a ‘Powys –style’ approach to collecting litter from residents who voluntarily help clean up our lanes and countryside is currently with the Portfolio holder, Cllr Paul Rone. It was **AGREED** to ask Balfour Beatty for a map showing grit bins so any damaged ones can be replaced but we will need to pay for additional ones. There was some confusion over conflicting reports that in future a

number of sandbags will continue to be allocated, but Parishes will have to pay for additional ones or whether they will be charged full stop.

3.2 The Locality Steward was not present

3.3 PCSO Knight was not present but the Safer Neighbourhood Team newsletter had been circulated

3.4 Cllr Whiteman reported on the Chair and Clerks' meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> February. It was felt that use of SIDs resulted in a short term effect and did not moderate behaviour long term. Aymestrey have produced their own scheme but it is a long way off implementation. It proposes to remove the central white line and add white lines to the road edges with gates at the entrance to the village. This model has been trialled in Eardisland and Peterchurch. Cllr Derrick presented some research on SIDs by Herefordshire Council from 2011 and there was a discussion over the most effective method of dealing with speeding.

Cllr Walker reported on the NAM meeting and described it as a useful forum. Internet banking was on its agenda but BGPC has decided to continue with cheques for now.

#### 4. Minutes of the previous meeting – 17<sup>th</sup> November 2015

These were APPROVED and signed by the Chairman with the following corrections under item 3.4 and 8.6:

**'It was pointed out that the affordable housing allocation was in flux when the Core Strategy was passed so there will need to be a review soon'**

**It was NOTED that 'moving the 30mph sign outside Brampton Bryan would require..'**

Cllr Brown also queried if the Chairman's report on his trip to Israel looking at their land/water management was relevant to Border Group business.

#### 5. Finance

5.1 RFO provided a detailed report on the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter (Oct to Dec 15) showing healthy finances. Current account - £9,282; Business account - £919; Lengthsman (Highway Maintenance account) - £7,000. There was a discussion over how to be pro-active and deliver a good service for residents whilst being prudent. It is clear that with more cuts on the way, Parish Councils will have to make careful decisions over how the Precept is spent and encourage participation from the community.

The following payments were **ACCEPTED** and cheques raised:

5.2 It was **AGREED** to pay Clerk's expenses for January and February of £65.72 and £96.24 respectively (chq nos 101584 and 101585)

5.3 It was **AGREED** to pay £30 to Tony Swainson ( NDP printing costs, chq no 101586)

5.4 It was **AGREED** to pay £150 to Phil Jones (Lengthsman scheme, inv 54, chq no 101587)

5.5 It was **AGREED** to pay £16 for hire of Lingen Village Hall (inv 1086, chq no 101588)

5.6 It was **AGREED** to query increase in subscription before making payment to HALC

5.7 It was **AGREED** to postpone payment of £25 for Clerk training on 3.2.16 to HALC until subscription resolved

## 6.1 Planning - to consider comments to Herefordshire Council on the following :

<b>APPLICATION NO &amp; SITE ADDRESS:</b>	<b>160267 - Barn Conversion at Oak Hill Barn, Boresford, Herefordshire, LD8 2NB</b>
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	<b>Prior approval for a proposed change of use of agricultural building to a dwelling house (Class C3) and associated operational development</b>
<b>APPLICANT(S):</b>	<b>Mr Plitt</b>
<b>GRID REF:</b>	<b>OS 334447, 270570</b>
<b>APPLICATION TYPE:</b>	<b>Prior Approval - Agricultural to residential</b>
<b>WEBSITE LINK:</b>	<b><a href="http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/searchplanningapplications">http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/searchplanningapplications</a></b>

**This application is for a prior approval determination for a change of use and as such the new legislation does not require you to respond to this communication.**

BGPC was not required to comment on this application but there was a general discussion over the new legislation which permits a change of use without planning permission being sought. Herefordshire Council can still impose conditions e.g. if local knowledge turns up new/compelling evidence but in general the legislation supports development. However it was considered important that BGPC should continue to scrutinise all applications that came in and make use of relevant local knowledge

## 6.2 Standing item ref use of Sec 106 monies in respect of Home Farm, Lingen Ref

**DCNW/2008/3016/F, 113046/F** –. The Clerk had been informed by Paul Clasby at Herefordshire Council that he is actively chasing the funds and will be in contact.

## 7. Neighbourhood Plan

8.1 The consultation ended on 7<sup>th</sup> February with HC requesting some changes. There will be a meeting with the Planning Dept and then it will go back to the Steering group. All Statutory consultees have responded but the main concern is the issue of the 5 year land supply which is precarious and a firm commitment is needed from the sites which have been put forward.

**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 work carried out this month

8.2. Lengthsman Scheme – checking grips and potholes; jetting will be carried out in next few weeks at Walford; there was a blocked drain at Deerfold Bank and a section from Weymore Cottage to Coxall also needed unblocking. Cllr Chilman will complete the Annual Plan with the lengthsman and submit to Balfour Beatty. (Copy to Clerk for records)

8.3 – SIDS – Costs are in region of £3000- £4,000 for one device including VAT and delivery/installation. It was queried if we need permission from HC. Clerk to follow up and report back in April.

8.4 Drainage at Stoneybridge -Cllr Chilman is following up with Balfour Beatty

**9. The Old Chapel, Adforton** –work is being carried out internally with promises to renovate exterior in Spring. **AGREED** to keep on agenda

**10. Hedge trimming at entrance to Reeves Lane /replacement mirror for safety reasons**

Cllr Brown confirmed she had asked Cllr Harley to arrange for hedge to be cut. Ward Cllr Gandy had spoken to Locality Steward about the mirror and the policy was not to replace in line with current Dept of Transport advice

**11. To make a decision re installing a defibrillator at Lingen Village Hall**

It was **AGREED** to look at purchasing one in conjunction with Village Hall. Cllr Barnett will attend the VH Committee meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> March and report back

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

**13. To raise items for next agenda: SIDS ; drainage at Stoneybridge; the Old Chapel ;Internal Audit; Poll cards**

There being no further business the Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.40 p.m. The next Meeting will take place at Adforton Community Hall on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2016 at 7.30.p.m.

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