

# **Border Group Parish Council**

## **Minutes of the Annual meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2016 at 7.00 pm at Lingen Village Hall. (Incorporating the monthly Parish Council Meeting)**

### **Present**

Councillors: Philip Barnett (arrived 7.30p.m.), Maggie Brown, Steve Chilman ( arrived at 8pm due to another meeting), Paul Derrick, Clive Gurney, Trevor Pritchard, John Walker & Simon Whiteman.  
Ward Councillor Carole Gandy

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

Clerk Maureen Robinson

PCSO Pete Knight

### **1. Election of Chairman**

Clive Gurney and Paul Derrick both offered to stand as Chair. Cllr Gurney then withdrew and Cllr Derrick was duly elected following a proposal by Cllr Brown, seconded by Cllr Walker and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. Former chairman Clive Gurney thanked all Councillors for their support and received thanks in return.

### **2. To Elect a Vice- Chairman**

Cllr Simon Whiteman was the only nomination and therefore elected to the office of Vice – Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Brown and seconded by Cllr Pritchard.

### **3. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from:

3.1 Cllr Harley

3.2 RFO Andrew Gray

3.3 Footpaths Officer Mike Oliver

3.4 Locality Steward- Mike Brookes

### **4. Declarations of Interest and written requests for dispensations**

None but Councillors were reminded to update their Register of Interests if any changes since last year.

### **5. Open Discussion**

5.1 Ward Cllr Carole Gandy:

Cllr Gandy began by reporting that the Reeves Hill windfarm appeal had been rejected. She had also been successful in obtaining a concession for users of the 491 bus to use their passes even though it left Leintwardine before 9.30 a.m. Given that by the time the bus reached Kingsland people could use their passes it was felt this was very unfair and so the reduced fare would be apply to all with passes.

Complaints about litter have been mounting and there is a new street cleansing manager in post. It appeared that not all bins were on the database.

Cllr Gandy reported that HC were still awaiting a response regarding the payment of s106 monies and the relevant member of staff had been on compassionate leave. A significant amount of money is at stake for BGPC. It was AGREED that Cllr Whiteman would approach the landowner to get his views.

A discussion followed over Permitted Development Rights and the conditions under which they are allowed. Class Q sets out the criteria for conversion of redundant agricultural buildings and there is a long list of qualifying criteria which must be met. If the application fails any of these then Planning

Permission is required and conditions may be attached. The principal 3 are Highway safety, redundant building and last used for agricultural purposes. It was queried how to enforce such conditions and it was confirmed a challenge could be made after the fact but only if they relate to the conditions. It is important that if such applications arise in future BGPC is vigilant and alerts the Planning Dept to any concerns. Future applications may also provide an opportunity to test the rigour of any conditions imposed.

Cllr Gandy concluded by congratulating the finalists of the Herefordshire Community Champions award for volunteers – all 3 were from North Herefordshire and she encouraged everyone to put someone forward for next year.

#### 5.2 PCSO Pete Knight:

There have been a number of thefts of farm gates across the area– possibly stolen to order. Pete emphasised the importance of marking property to help with identification of stolen property including the use of ‘Smartwater’, a Cri- pen and stickers with West Mercia police logo. Break-ins have occurred at Village Halls in Richards Caste and Orleton. Pete summarised the benefits of the ‘Stop that Thief’ initiative, in conjunction with the NFU, aimed at farms and rural properties which have been targeted repeatedly. Vulnerable properties are able to trial the various products for 3 weeks at no cost. 200+ properties across Herefordshire have already signed up and it is being rolled out to Shropshire. All Watch schemes are co-ordinated by Paul Crumpton and anyone can sign up for information on any scheme via the West Mercia Police website. There had been a number of distraction thefts at supermarkets recently and victims should notify the store and the Police. To contact Pete please dial 101

**5.2. Balfour Beatty Highways Contractor:** Mike Brookes unable to attend and it emerged he had provided a report to other PC’s for their Annual Meeting but not BGPC?

#### 5.3 Reports from Chairman/Councillors/Annual Parish Meetings

Verbal reports were received from individual Cllrs for Adforton, Brampton Bryan and Lingen incorporating their respective hamlets. The main issues included speeding – there was widespread support for use of SIDs -, concerns over empty and dilapidated properties, missing footpath signs in Lingen, the need for jetting culverts and litter. Copies of these can be found on BGPC website [www.bordergroup-pc.org](http://www.bordergroup-pc.org).

5.3.1 Cllr Walker reported on a meeting he had attended regarding the need to record Rights of Way on the County Definitive Map and identify any public footpaths which are used but not currently designated as such.

**5.4 To hear views of local residents on Parish Matters – nothing raised**

#### 6. Minutes of the previous meeting – 12.4.16

The minutes of the April meeting were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman with the following amendment under 3.1: ‘All councillors to receive electronic copies of planning comments submitted on behalf of BGPC’

#### 7. Finance:

7.1 The RFO was not present and as there had not been time to scrutinise them prior to the meeting, the Annual accounts were approved in principle subject to obtaining year- end balance and the IA report. It was AGREED that Cllr Whiteman could access the statement on-line to speed up the process rather than waiting for a paper copy. Proposed by Cllr Chilman and seconded by Cllr Gurney.

7.2 It was AGREED the Clerk would put together an advert for RFO for approval before next meeting.

7.3 It was AGREED to pay £273 for renewal of Insurance (chq no. 101550)

7.4 It was AGREED to pay Clerk’s expenses of £101.72 (chq no 101549)

7.5 It was AGREED to pay £16 for hire of Lingen VH (chq no 101553)

7.6 It was AGREED to pay £600 to Data Orchard for NP consultancy (chq no 101599)

7.7 It was AGREED to pay £90 to Mr Beavan for hedge cutting (chq no 100379)

7.8 It was AGREED to pay £35 to Information Commissioner (chq no 1001600)

7.9 It was AGREED to circulate Risk Management policy for approval in June

7.10 It was AGREED to approve Asset Register in June as additional items needed confirmation that they belonged to BGPC

## 8. Planning

To consider comments to Herefordshire Council on the following applications:

### **APPLICATION NO & SITE ADDRESS:**

**160763 - Adforton Service Reservoir, Off the U92006, Adforton, Leintwardine, Herefordshire**

DESCRIPTION: Proposed construction of a 2m x 3m x 2.5m GRP kiosk.

APPLICANT(S): Dwr Cymru Welsh Water

GRID REF: OS 339647, 270779

APPLICATION TYPE: Planning Permission

WEBSITE LINK: <http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/searchplanningapplications>

BGPC did not object to the application. Permission granted 26.5.16

### **8.2 APPLICATION NO & SITE ADDRESS: 161059 - The Old Cottage, Lingen, Bucknell, Herefordshire SY7 0DY**

DESCRIPTION: Demolition of kitchen and outbuildings and rebuild with lounge extension

APPLICANT(S): Mr & Mrs D Luter

GRID REF: OS 336558, 266957

APPLICATION TYPE: Full Householder

WEBSITE LINK: <http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/searchplanningapplications>

Deadline 26.5.16

BGPC raised no objections

### **8.3 P161156/PA7 Paytoe Hall – prior approval. Paytoe Hall Leintwardine Craven Arms Herefordshire SY7 0NB, Proposed agricultural grain store. Decision made 6.5.16**

It was queried why the Clerk had not been notified in usual way.

There was a brief discussion over whether the Clerk should apply for an automatic extension to the consultation period if a response is required between PC meetings. This item was deferred till June.

Cllr Gandy added that an extension would only be granted with permission of the applicant.

**9. Neighbourhood Plan** - will be ready for submission in next fortnight and be brought to June meeting for approval by PC

**10. Cookies on BGPC website** – it was AGREED to use the term ‘implied consent’ to comply with Data Protection legislation and advisory wording will appear when someone visits the website for the first time

## 11. Highways

11.1. Lengthsman - strimming around road signs; litter picking in Adforton and Walford; ditching carried out at Boresford to prevent water running onto road; tarmac has been laid at junction with Buckton in Walford; investigation/removal of tree roots causing an obstruction in the drain at Birtley . Balfour Beatty had been carrying out surveying on the C1001 at Brampton Bryan where a culvert was collapsing. Work was due to start on May 19<sup>th</sup>. A new team had been established to deal pro-actively with drainage and water run –off. It was AGREED to report the blocked culvert opposite Weymore Cottages ( U92002) as a fault as Balfour Beatty had ceased to carry out routine jetting work.

11.2 P3 – nothing to report though it was noted that Balfour Beatty will start charging for materials effectively reducing the funds available (despite claiming there would be no cuts to P3 grant.)

11.3 Traffic Mirror at Reeves Lane junction – AGREED to ask advice from Simon Hobbs at HC regarding location and specification. (It was felt the mirror only needed to provide a view to the right from the direction of Brampton Bryan)

11.4 Purchase of SID – on-going as funds still not confirmed.

11.5 To approve Lengthsman contract - APPROVED

**12. Cllrs updated Register of Interest where any changes had occurred since last year.**

**13 Community Litter Pick** – this item was deferred to June meeting

**14. Defibrillator** -it was AGREED that Lingen Village Hall would make a contribution of £642.50 and BGPC pay the remainder. Total cost £1,542. Proposed by Cllr Walker and seconded by Cllr Brown.

**15. The Old Chapel, Adforton** – Cllr Gandy agreed to raise again as work seems to have stalled. She also agreed to make enquiries about the cottage by Adforton church as residents are very concerned about its condition and the owners are absent. Cllr Walker offered to contact English Heritage to establish if Grade 1 or 2 Listed

**16. The Information Sheet** was noted.

**17. Matters raised for the next meeting:** Tuesday 14th June at Adforton VH at 7.30 pm

- **Community Litter Pick**
- **Vacant Premises**
- **Public Rights of Way**
- **Drainage at Reeves Lane**
- **Condition of road from Adforton to Letton**

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.15 p.m.

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