

**Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on
Tuesday 26th February 2019 at 7.30 p.m. at Adforton Church Hall.**

Present:

Councillors: Philip Barnet, Maggie Brown, Steve Chilman, Tom Dixon, Clive Gurney, Trevor Pritchard, Simon Whiteman (Chair)

In attendance:

Clerk/RFO Maureen Robinson
Ward Councillor Carole Gandy
8 members of public

1. Apologies for absence: Cllrs Walker and Harley

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

3. Open Session – brief verbal reports received from:

3.1 Ward Cllr Gandy had circulated her report which can be seen in full on the Border Group website. In addition she reported that a number of residents had contacted her to express their delight at the resurfacing of Reeves Lane. Parish Councils will also have the option to bid for up to £25K if they have a Lengthsman. Details to follow. From 1st April 2019 any property empty for up to 2 years will pay full Council tax + an extra 100%, up to 5 years' full Council tax + an extra 200% and up to 10 years' full Council tax and an extra 300%.

3.2 Chair and Councillors' reports: Cllr Walker had provided a written summary of the Parish Summit he attended which was read out. Parish Councils had expressed anger at the loss of funding for P3 and PROW given the health benefits of walking and its importance for tourism

3.3 Local residents – Residents from Birtley expressed concerns about building work on a plot of land there. Ward Cllr Gandy aware and was thanked for her prompt action. Residents were advised that if any construction starts they should let her know immediately. Another resident complained about the very poor condition of Letton Lane which he considered to be caused partly by the movement of heavy machinery felling trees on Forestry Commission land adjacent to the lane.

4. Minutes of the previous meeting – 15th January 2019

These were **APPROVED** and signed by the Chair with amendments

5. To receive an update on a sluice at Walford – an alternative supplier had been found at a lower cost and the sluice should be in place soon. The possibility of dredging later in the year was raised should this be necessary.

6. To receive an update following the agricultural fire at Paytoe on January 15th - Cllr Gurney reported that 2 meetings had taken place in January and February. One with senior staff from Keys Care, Inspector James Ashton from the Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) and the Police Liaison Officer for Care Homes and one with the manager and Regional Manager for Mill Cottage. Cllr Gurney expressed the view that residents locally still felt anxious and vulnerable although PCSO Harper had been out to reassure some of them. He described the strength of feeling and the fact that some local residents wanted the home to be closed. Herefordshire Council has no authority to act as no young people from Herefordshire are accommodated. Only Ofsted can withdraw the registration. It was **AGREED** that Clerk would contact Ofsted to relay concerns.

7. To receive an update on road condition/potholes Reeves Lane following recent works – dealt with at 3.1 above

SJChilman

8. To consider comments on Wigmore Group Regulation 16 resubmission Neighbourhood Development Plan consultation – ends 27th Feb. Noted but no comments submitted

9. Finance

9.1. **AGREED** to pay Clerk salary, January, of £379.45 incl £40 towards home office costs); expenses of £44.99 (Feb) (chq no 101749)

9.2 **AGREED** to pay £16.00 to Lingen Village Hall for room hire 15.1.19 (inv 19.06) (chq no 101750)

9.3 **AGREED** to request for contribution of £30 towards upkeep of churchyard at Adforton Church (chq no 101751)

9.4 To review/update BGPC Financial Regulations (circulated prior to meeting) – **AGREED** to adopt following removal of paragraphs which did not apply to BGPC and can be lawfully amended

9.5 **NOTED** contribution of £466.79 from Brampton Bryan residents/PCC towards the cost of defibrillator at Brampton Bryan – a further contribution of £200 had been received from Brampton Bryan Parish Hall making a total of £666.79 in donations. The Clerk reported that conflicting advice had been received regarding the reclaim of VAT on this purchase. Definitive advice to be sought to clarify the matter. Cllr Brown did not agree with the decision to reclaim all the VAT but other Cllrs disagreed.

9.6 To consider payment of £456 (incl VAT) to Andrew Deptford for Cabinet for defib and discuss how to resolve shortfall in contributions to meet this – **AGREED** to pay for Cabinet. 5 in favour, 1 against. Receipt of additional funds from BBVH meant no longer any shortfall.

9.7 Payment of £990 (incl VAT) to Andrew Deptford for the defibrillator for Brampton Bryan. **NOTED** (chq no 101743). Cllr Brown wished it to be recorded that she was not in favour of paying this invoice between meetings as she felt it went against Financial Regs.

9.8 To complete internal control checklist from Internal Auditor – **COMPLETED**. Clerk to return to IA

9.9 To consider request from Clerk for another website tutorial. **AGREED**

10. Highways

10.1 To receive an update on SID locations/model and confirm decision to purchase. **AGREED** to purchase the model from Westcotec at a cost of £2,800 (ex VAT). All in favour.

10.2 To consider work to be undertaken under P3 scheme – Cllr Walker reported a broken step on the footpath immediately opposite Field Cottage, Willey.

10.3 To consider work to be undertaken by Lengthsman – ditching at Stocken Lane; grips cleaned at Birtley/Brampton Bryan. There is a blocked drain at Birtley which requires jetting.

Ward Cllr Gandy reported that Balfour Beatty’s Annual Plan did not include any resurfacing in our Ward but there will be significant surface dressing as with the U91620 at Willey Oak. A new leaflet has been produced on Riparian responsibilities.

10.4 To note Expression of Interest form from Balfour Beatty re Lengthsman/P3 scheme for 19/20. **NOTED**

11. Planning

To consider comments to Herefordshire Council on the following applications:

APPLICATION NO & SITE ADDRESS:

Planning Consultation - 190376 - Deerfold View, Lingen, Bucknell, Herefordshire SY7 0DY

DESCRIPTION:

Proposed works to Ash tree. Reduction of crown by 12 metres to previous pollard level. Reduce weight on lateral over

SK Johnson

stream. Trim.

APPLICANT(S):

Mrs Christine Moore

GRID REF:

OS 336502, 266951

APPLICATION TYPE:

Works to Trees in a Conservation Area

WEBSITE LINK:

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

BGPC supported the application

APPLICATION NO & SITE ADDRESS:

Planning Consultation - 184637 - Land at

Turn Farm, Lingen, Herefordshire,

DESCRIPTION:

Proposed two storey detached dwelling and formation of a new vehicular access.

APPLICANT(S):

Mrs V Morris

GRID REF:

OS 336508, 267043

APPLICATION TYPE:

Planning Permission

WEBSITE LINK:

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

BGPC objected on grounds of access and drainage although the development was supported in the NDP

12. To review BGPC Planning Policy on applications between meetings. BGPC **AGREED** to shelve the policy and revert to holding Extraordinary meetings for applications which came in between meetings should an extension not be granted to allow comments to be submitted in time.

13. To consider any responses to offer of 'Smartwater' marking and how to action. **AGREED** BGPC would pay for hire of hall to enable session to take place. Clerk to contact PCSO to explore possible dates. It was felt a Saturday would be preferable and Lingen VH the most suitable location

14. To discuss options for 'Green Spaces' locally and consider applying for a grant from Herefordshire Public Green Spaces Community Grant Scheme in next funding round. Clerk had contacted grants team who advised it was unlikely further funding available in new financial year. No progress.

15. To note receipt of Election bulletins and timetable. **Noted** – nomination forms were handed out to members/will be delivered to those not present for all Border Group Parishes

Cllr Dixon left the meeting at this point and Cllr Walker joined the meeting (8.50 p.m.)

16. To note Information sheet/ Correspondence received and responded to. **Noted**

17. To raise matters for next meeting agenda. No discussion

- Sluice at Walford
- Annual Parish Meetings

18. A report was received from the Employment Working Group dealing with Clerk's employment conditions and its recommendations accepted.

St John

There being no further business the Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.45 p.m. The next Meeting will take place at **Brampton Bryan** Parish Hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday 16th April 2019. No meeting in March.

Signed: *SJ Schulman* Date..... 16.. 4.. 19.....