

**Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on
Tuesday 18th February 2020 at 7.30 p.m. at Lingen Village Hall.**

Present:

Councillors: Steve Alford, Philip Barnet, Tom Dixon, David Kelly, Trevor Pritchard, Simon Whiteman (Chair),

In attendance:

Clerk/RFO Maureen Robinson

Ward Cllr Gandy

Lengthsman – Chris Shepherd

Local residents – 11

1. Apologies for absence: Cllrs Chilman and Gurney

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. The planning application at the Willows at Birtley had been refused

3.2 Chair and Councillors' reports: Cllr Dixon reported that 12 representatives from Balfour Beatty, Herefordshire Council and the Environment Agency plus 5 residents met to discuss the flooding in Walford and Buckton. A flood group is being formed and a (volunteer) Flood warden will be recruited. Residents have cleared debris from ditches along the road to Adforton but it appears the stream under the bridge may be blocked as water cannot get away across the fields. A discussion took place over whether the EA allow work to be done in rivers with conflicting views expressed. This requires further clarification before any work can be carried out to remove trees etc.

Residents queried process over landowners not keeping ditches, waterways etc clear of obstructions. Ward Cllr Gandy explained that Balfour Beatty could carry out the work with a charge being put on the property to recoup expenses incurred. Clerk to contact Mike Brookes, Locality Steward, to confirm process for reporting landowners who fail to carry out their riparian responsibilities. Cllrs applauded the efforts of Walford residents to help themselves and support each other through what has been a challenging and distressing time.

3.3 Local residents - representatives from Buckton and Walford attended the meeting to express their strong feelings about the effects of the flooding which they felt could have been reduced if ditches etc had been regularly maintained. There is the possibility of a grant from Central govt towards flood relief measures and it was felt the concrete culvert running along the Walford to Adforton rd would be a good project for this funding. It was **AGREED** to get a quote from the Lengthsman to carry out work to clear the culvert.

4. Minutes of the previous meeting – Monthly Meeting of Parish Council 21st January and Extraordinary Meeting of Parish Council on 10th February 2020

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

5. To receive an update on a sluice at Walford – On- going.

6. To provide an update following meeting on re flood response –incorporated into 3.2/3 above

7. To receive an update on SID – deferred to March

8. To note request for an Election in Brampton Bryan and decide whether to provide poll cards – poll cards are only needed if Election contested and this will not be known until 28th February.

9. Finance

- 9.1 Payment of Clerk expenses of £48.39 (Feb) (chq no101804)
- 9.2 Payment of £2,604 (incl VAT) to Purrfect Cat (Lengthsman) for works – see invoices on BGPC website (chq no 101806)
- 9.3 Payment of £24 to Lingen VH for hall hire (Jan) (chq no 101805)
- 9.4 To consider appointment of new Internal Auditor – it was **AGREED** to engage DM Payroll Services, Kidderminster, who quoted £100 to carry out the IA.

Payments approved. All in favour.

10. Highways

- 10.1 To consider work to be undertaken under P3 scheme – BGPC were very sad to hear that Mike Oliver who has been our Footpaths Officer for more years than he cares to remember, will be stepping down at the end of March. Mike has done a brilliant job of keeping the network in good order and he will be sorely missed. BGPC wishes him well in his retirement.
- 10.2 To consider work to be undertaken by Lengthsman – See invoices on BGPC website for details of work carried out
- 10.3 Quote received from Balfour Beatty for 2 new directional signs for Walford towards Lingen/Presteigne came to £273.76 (ex VAT) which was felt to be extortionate. It was acknowledged that the current signs are a potential safety hazard and therefore BGPC should pay to replace them. All in favour.

11. Planning

To consider comments to Herefordshire Council on the following application:

APPLICATION NO & SITE ADDRESS:	Planning Re-consultation - 184287 - Land at Lingen Nursery, Lingen, Herefordshire,
DESCRIPTION:	Proposed erection of eight dwellings with garages, double garage for the existing dwelling, new access and associated development on land at Lingen Nursery.
APPLICANT(S):	Mr & Mrs Davis
GRID REF:	OS 336643, 266835
APPLICATION TYPE	Planning Permission

(Amended Drainage Scheme) X Additional Amended and Additional
 Plans or documents have been received for the proposal described above
BGPC supported the application – all in favour

12. To consider response to Core Strategy Settlement Hierarchy Review (deadline 3rd April) – deferred to March meeting

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

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

- SID
- Sluice at Walford
- Election/ Co-option of Brampton Bryan Cllr
- Feedback from 4th March meeting re flood response/ future action

- Response to Core Strategy Settlement Hierarchy Review
- Grant application for Walford flood work
- Quote for jetting culvert at Walford
- Recruitment of Footpaths Officer

There being no further business the Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.10.p.m. The next Meeting will take place at **Adforton Church Hall** at 7.30pm on Tuesday 17th March 2020.

Signed..... *SJC* Date..... ~~17.3.20~~.....
28.5.20