

6th February 2018

MORETON ON LUGG PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Moreton-on-Lugg Parish Council meeting
held in Moreton-on-Lugg Village Hall on
Tuesday 6th February at 7.30p.m.

Moreton on Lugg Parish Council website: moretononlugg.org

Parish Clerk – Lesley Hay

MINUTES

PRESENT: Councillors: Cllr K Cooper (Chairman) Cllr. P. Spong (Vice-Chairman); Cllr. C Crowley; Cllr. Richard Styles; Cllr. Barry Garbett; Cllr B Jackson; Cllr V Javens; Cllr D Preece; Cllr C Boden.

Present: 4 members of the public. PCSO Elena Ekanite plus colleague.

Also Present: Parish Clerk: Lesley Hay. Ward Cllr K Guthrie; Mr John Coleman; Mr Robert Taplin – Internal Auditor; Mrs P Taplin – Chairman Village Hall Committee.

The Chairman welcomed those present to the February meeting.

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – None received
- 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND WRITTEN APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATIONS** by Parish Councillors – Cllr K Cooper signed on behalf of the Village Hall.
- 3. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE LOCAL POLICE OFFICER**

It was reported that the village activity/awareness day held on Monday 18th December 2017 was very well received and it was hoped that the Parish Councillors and/or volunteers within the village would now take the initiative forward. It was agreed that the Chairman would prepare an article for the newsletter and would liaise with representatives from HSVO with a view to organising similar activity days either at Easter or during the Summer holiday. The request for a pool table was noted but it was acknowledged that supervision would be a problem.

Resolved: Chairman to prepare an article for Newsletter

The most recent SNT Newsletter – had been circulated and the incident in Marden was brought to the attention of those present. The PCSO stressed the importance of checking identification if approached by police or representatives from other utility suppliers – everyone should have identification badges and if in doubt, check with appropriate authority help desk or 101

The PCSO also invited anyone concerned by this recent incident and/or any other crimes to contact the SNT who will arrange a visit to discuss crime prevention and security advice. Call 101 or email:herefordrn.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

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It was agreed that this information should be made available on the website and in the Newsletter.

- 4. WARD COUNCILLOR'S REPORT** – Ward Cllr Guthrie's most recent report, which had been circulated to Councillors, was read out by Cllr Guthrie for the information of those present. Please see copy attached to these minutes.

A document outlining proposed changes in the River Lugg Bylaws had been circulated to Councillors and was shared with Ward Cllr Guthrie and those present. To be up loaded on to website.

(4.1) **OPEN DISCUSSION** – with local residents present at meeting and matters raised between meetings.

(4.2) Presentation Community Governance Review – John Coleman

The Chairman welcomed Mr John Coleman to explain in more detail the proposed Community Governance Review.

Mr John Coleman on behalf of the Community Governance Review explained that following the recent correspondence confirming the terms of reference relating to the Community Governance Review (CGR) for Moreton on Lugg Parish Council - he confirmed that the terms of reference are now available on Herefordshire Council's web-site, thus formally triggering the review, along with a proposed timeline for completing the review.

As part of any CGR the local authority conducting the review needs to provide reasonable periods for consultation with local electors and other stakeholders, for the consideration of evidence presented to them in representations, as well as for decision-making. In making any recommendations, the review should consider expressions of local opinion made by local people and other interested persons, and also use its own knowledge of the local area.

This first phase of consultation aims to gather initial opinion/evidence on the proposals for the CGR which in the case of Moreton on Lugg is to examine the case of two properties affected by a border anomaly. It was proposed that the two properties would be better represented in the neighbouring parish of Wellington. The consultation will be made available on line via the council's web-site along with some additional background information on CGRs and Morton on Lugg Parish Council web sites.

To that end, there is a list of proposed questions around which the aim is to consult local electors and stakeholders on Moreton on Lugg's CGR. It was agreed that Mr Coleman would provide a covering letter and a short list of questions and a personal copy would be delivered to the two properties affected by the change in boundaries from Moreton on Lugg into Wellington. Copies of the questionnaire would be displayed on the Notice Boards; on the parish website and there will be advertising in The Hereford Times.

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As this proposed change would affect the Ward Boundary - Ward Cllr Guthrie expressed her support of these suggested changes and would have no objection to a Ward Boundary change.

The Parish Council unanimously agreed to support the proposed changes and Mr Coleman reported that he will continue to liaise with both Wellington and Moreton on Lugg Parish Councils with regard to these proposals and will report back to the Parish Clerks.

There was discussion on the proposed East v West Hereford bypass routes. It was explained that there would be various locations where maps and routes would be on display for discussion and opinion before a final decision is agreed. See Ward Cllr's Guthrie's report for more information.

With no other items raised – The Chairman closed the Open Session.

5. Chairman's Report

(5.1) The Chairman reported that the Beeches development was progressing well. The matter of opening the access road on to the village road was raised by Cllr Garbett and after some discussion with regard to the likely disruption this may cause – it was agreed that the Chairman would approach the contractor/developer to ascertain a time scale of when this is likely to take place and will report back to the next meeting.

It was discussed and agreed that it would be beneficial if this access work was completed prior to the resurfacing of the village road now provisionally planned for August.

Resolved: Chairman to liaise with Developer.

(5.2) The Chairman reported a nasty accident had occurred due to a local raised inspection cover – however, this problem had been swiftly dealt with and thanks extended to the Locality Steward. The Councillors expressed their good wishes to the resident who suffered considerable facial injuries due to her fall.

6. VILLAGE HALL REPORT

Mrs P Taplin, Chairman Village Hall Committee, reported that unfortunately during the snow and severe weather before Christmas the roof/wall had leaked into the main hall. The damage has been repaired and to date there have been no further problems. Superficial damage to the paint work can be repaired inhouse. There is a problem with the lights in the foyer which is being monitored. The painting of the corridor and toilets has now been completed and everywhere has now been finished except for the upstairs office.

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There are events planned for the Spring and Summer – these will be advertised in the Newsletter and website.

Mrs Taplin explained that the committee are looking to replacing the fire doors in the main hall – it is hoped that the costs can be covered from within the village hall funds but, if this is not financially possible, it may be that there will be a request to the Parish Council as there are still some funds available within the 2017/28 budget which had been allocated to the Village Hall upgrade.

A vote of thanks was extended to Mrs Taplin and her team for their continued support and dedication to the Village Hall and the Committee.

The Treasurer explained there was £4648.72 in the current account with two small invoices due for payment in February. At the moment income is running higher than expenditure – a copy of the up to date January accounts sheet was made available for the Parish Council and is on file.

- 7. The MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** held on the 5th December 2017 were unanimously agreed to be a true record and that they should be adopted and signed by the Chairman.

Clerk's update:

The clerk explained that AON are finishing their commitment to providing Parish Council Insurance as from 31st May 2018. The Clerk explained that she had approached Zurich for a provisional quote and this was discussed. It was agreed that the Clerk would approach other insurance firms/ brokers for quotes and bring back to the next meeting.

However, it was accepted that now new External Auditors were being appointed and new Insurers, the Parish Council could take this opportunity to update their asset list. The Clerk will email a copy of the existing list and the Councillors will check assets against this list and discuss further at the next meeting.

Resolved: Clerk to get further Insurance quotes and email a current asset list.

The recent Information Corner from HALC had been circulated and the Clerk and Councillors discussed the various issues highlighted in this document.

The Clerk explained that she had now finalised a Safeguarding Children and Adults Local Parish Councils Checklist. It was agreed that the Clerk would approach Steve Browne with regard to becoming the local contact and that the document would be circulated and, after further discussion, be adopted at the Annual Parish Council meeting in May along with the other official documents that are annually discussed and adopted.

There was further discussion on replacing/upgrading the existing Post Box. The clerk had nothing positive to report following her contact with the Post Office representative. However, Cllr Spong reported that she had also been investigating

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this issue and will now approach a firm called Rumax and will report back to the next meeting.

Further information on the Balfour Beatty Commissioning model has still not been issued to the Clerks.

The Clerk was asked to order two 'Keep to footpath' notices in green and these will be erected by the Parish Council.

8. Ongoing Planning applications: land West of Church Farm

(8.1) Despite there being no further update following Ward Cllr Guthrie's approach to the Planning Officer in order to explore if consideration could be given to moving the access to opposite St. Andrew's Close - and the response which outlines that the scheme will not be amended as professional advice indicates that the locally preferred access would have a greater impact on highway safety - it was agreed to keep this item as an agenda item for the foreseeable future.

9. PLAY PARK REPORT

The Clerk reported that the annual play park inspection quote from Frances White has been received and remains the same as last year at £58.60 – it was unanimously agreed to accept this quote. However, the clerk was asked to stress that this inspection needed to be completed prior to the start of the school summer holidays. This also applies to the Play Quest annual inspection.

Resolved: Clerk to confirm quote and confirm inspection dates.

Cllr Styles reported that the tops of two fir trees had been blow down in the wind and had damaged a neighbouring fence. The trees had been removed and the fence can be repaired inhouse.

The purchase of a brush cutter was again discussed and it was agreed, due to the large financial outlay to purchase, to hire one on a weekly basis.

Cllr Styles presented a quote for replacement football nets with appropriate safety net hooks and replacement heavy-duty basketball nets. This quote was discussed and it was unanimously agreed to go ahead with the purchase. To enable to purchase to go ahead payment had to be made with the order – so it was agreed that a cheque was raised and signed. An appropriate invoice and receipted documents will be forwarded to the clerk.

Cllr Styles reported that he had been trying to trap a mole who had recently moved on to the football field. It was agreed that if this trap proves unsuccessful, Cllr Styles will approach Ray Styles Pest Control. The previous quote, by Ray Styles, of £45 to set traps on each infestation and £10 per mole had already been accepted and minuted at a previous Parish Council meeting.

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It was explained that Steve Browne had applied on line to the Environmental Agency for a registration document associated with handling waste. A copy of this registration document was circulated and after discussion and it was agreed that this should be filed with the Play Park correspondence.

The Clerk explained that she had made enquiries on line as to whether it was necessary for Adrian Parry to have a Waste Carrier Licence to cover his work within the village. This was discussed and the clerk asked to make further enquiries if this licence was required. Also, there was discussion with regard to Mr Parry's insurance and again Clerk to make enquiries and report back to the Parish Council.

Resolved: Clerk to liaise with the environmental agency/ Zurich Insurance Company and report back to the next meeting.

TO RECEIVE REPORTS/UPDATES

(10.1) The tree work at the substation had been completed and it was agreed to accept a donation of £30 for the larger pieces of wood.

The tree felling work in the Play Park Avenue (phase one) had started but delayed due to the adverse weather but will be completed as conditions improve. Cllr Styles will liaise with regard to the selling of the larger pieces of timber. The brash had been through the chipper and spread on the paths in the play park.

(10.2) Litter Picking Weekend – details had been circulated

(10.3) **Footpath Officer's reported** the footpaths and bridleway are very wet but in good order considering the time of year.

11. TO RECEIVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT:

(11.1) Payments since last meeting – the clerk explained that a cheque issued to D C Gardening have been lost in the Christmas post – the cheque had not been presented so was cancelled with the bank and a replacement issued.

(11.2) To consider payment of accounts – a schedule of payments had been circulated and it was unanimously agreed that these be paid and cheques were raised and signed.

12. LENGTHSMAN SCHEME –February work sheet

Clerk to liaise with Locality Steward and lengthsman with regard to the crumbling wall by Post Office Green and the state of the walkway between Cedar Close and St Peters Close.

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12.1 Lengthsman scheme schedule of work 2018/19 - the clerk confirmed she has completed the application form and submitted to Balfour Beatty. The Clerk reminded Councillors that although there is no 2018/19 funding – these application forms still have to be submitted for insurance purposes.

Parish Councillors accepted D C Gardening's quote for the 2018/19 mowing programme. The clerk confirmed there had been no update on the Balfour Beatty summer mowing time table as yet.

12.2 **P3 scheme 2018/19** – Clerk confirmed funding application form completed and submitted.

13. TO CONSIDER MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS FOR NEXT

AGENDA – not for discussion. A short discussion on a possibility of a solar/sensor lamp being erected along the walkway Cedar's Close and St Peter's Close – for further discussion at next meeting.

The Clerk confirmed that she had sent an invitation to Lewis Goldwater – Tree Warden for Herefordshire – and he has confirmed that he will attend the next meeting to give a short presentation.

14. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 6th March 2018

Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30p.m.

Signed:

Date:

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Ward Councillor's Report
Highways Matters

Meeting With Highways England

I've spoken to Councillor Colleagues about issues regarding the A49 & the consensus is that Ward Councillors (Northern Section of A49) would like a meeting with Highways England. Cllr. Barry Durkin (Cabinet Member for Transport & Roads) is making the arrangements.

The very poor condition of the C1120 Moreton on Lugg to Marden road.

I have further asked Cllr. Barry Durkin (Cabinet Member for Transport & Roads) for an update on when this road is scheduled to be resurfaced & I have been supplied with a response from Balfour Beatty which is as follows: -

"The C1120 at Moreton on Lugg will be closed for Network Rail to carry out some work to the level crossing on 14-5 April. I've checked with the Asset management team and they have a provisional date of August for the resurfacing works – unfortunately we can't be any more specific at the moment, until we have confirmation of the budget. As soon as I have the details we will let Cllr Guthrie and the parish know.

In the meantime, the C1120 is inspected monthly, and safety defects will be repaired as necessary and in accordance with the Highways Maintenance Plan".

Hereford Transport Package consultation begins on 6 February

Plans for the Hereford Transport Package – the Hereford Bypass and associated walking, cycling, bus and public realm improvements will be exhibited on the 6, 7 and 8 of February 2018.

The exhibition will be available for public view between 11am and 8pm in the pod next to The Coffee Corner at Old Market.

[There will also be an evening session on Tuesday 13 February 2018 from 6pm to 9pm at Whitecross High School.](#)

The exhibition will move to Hereford Library on Friday 16 February where it will remain for the duration of the consultation period, until Tuesday 20 March.

The exhibition can be viewed during normal library opening hours and staff will be available to answer questions on Saturday 24 February and Saturday 10 March between 11am and 2pm.

For more information on the consultation view - Herefordshire.gov.uk/HTP .

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Councillor Johnson to step down after five years as Leader of Herefordshire Council

Councillor Tony Johnson announced his resignation on 1st February 2018 as Leader of Herefordshire Council, which will take effect at the next full Council meeting on 9 March 2018.

He has been a councillor with Herefordshire Council for more than seven years and has been Leader of the council for five years. He is stepping down to spend more time with his family and on his hobbies, and will remain a ward councillor for Hope End.

In line with the council's constitution, the new Leader will be elected at the meeting of full Council on 9th March.

As a Member of Hereford & Worcester Fire Authority -

Fire Authority Meeting 14th December 2017 - update

The Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) has consulted on new Fire Governance Proposals which would see the Commissioner take on governance of both Shropshire and Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Services.

"The PCC had submitted a revised business case on fire governance directly to the Home Office which was currently being reviewed by CIPFA on behalf of the Secretary of State. The Chairman explained that the Leaders of the Constituent Authorities had again requested the two Fire Authorities to engage consultants to undertake an independent analysis of the business case due to concerns regarding the potential impact on the delivery of fire and rescue services. The outcome of this analysis carried out by Ameo Alendi Consulting Ltd, had been submitted to CIPFA for their consideration.

RESOLVED that the report "Assessment of the West Mercia PCC Final Business Case" by Ameo Alendi Consulting Ltd be noted and sent to the constituent authorities and to local MPs."

To View the Report visit Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service website www.hwfire.org.uk

I have been asked to highlight this issue:

NO WAY THRU – can mean no help for you!

Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service (HWFRS) supported by West Mercia Police are reminding drivers to be mindful of where they park on narrow roads as it could prevent fire engines and other emergency vehicles from accessing an emergency.

HWFRS will be distributing leaflets, candidly branded 'No Way Thru' to warn members of the public about the stark realities of inconsiderate parking, and provide some parking tips to enable emergency service vehicles access.

For more safety information, please visit www.hwfire.org.uk

Full Council approves 2018/19 budget and Council Tax rates on 26/01/2018

Council Tax to be raised by 4.9%

Full Council has approved the 2018/19 budget on 26th January 2018, which includes the setting of Council Tax rates which will start in April 2018.

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A total Council Tax increase of 4.9% has been approved by Full Council. This will increase the band D charge from £1,376.50 to £1,443.95 in 2018/19 (around £1.30 a week).

In order to keep Council Tax as low as possible, the adult social care precept will remain at 2% and will be spent on providing adult social care. Core Council Tax will be set at 2.9% (a 1% rise on last year). Increasing the core Council Tax gives Herefordshire Council the flexibility to spend the additional finance on all council services, such as roads and waste, in addition to adult social care.

Changes to Council Tax will come into effect in April 2018.

1.

2. **Herefordshire Council's Annual Canvass - update**

3.

4. 2,000 more voters in Herefordshire added to the electoral roll

Over 95% of Herefordshire are estimated to be registered to vote

Herefordshire Council's annual canvass of households is now complete. The survey takes place every year to make sure that those who are eligible to vote are registered, and the updated electoral roll was published in December 2017.

Herefordshire added nearly 2,000 more voters onto the electoral roll in 2017 – meaning an increase of 1.4% more people registered to vote compared to 2016. An impressive 93% of households responded to the annual canvass – 3% more than the previous year. The increase is thought to be due to the ease of responding to the survey online, by email and text, with 44% more householders returning their form online than the year before.

For further information about registering to vote, visit www.herefordshire.gov.uk/elections

Report by Kema Guthrie 05/02/2018