

6<sup>th</sup> March 2018

**MORETON ON LUGG PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Moreton-on-Lugg Parish Council meeting**  
**held in Moreton-on-Lugg Village Hall on**  
**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30p.m.**

**Moreton on Lugg Parish Council website: [moretononlugg.org](http://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 B Jackson; Cllr D Preece; Cllr C Boden.

Present: 3 members of the public. Also Present: Parish Clerk: Lesley Hay. Ward Cllr K Guthrie; Mr. Lewis Goldwater.

**The Chairman welcomed those present to the March meeting.**

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Cllr Val Javens; Cllr B Garbett; Mr R Taplin
- 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**

The recent Newsletter had been circulated. One item of interest had been reported: the theft of a wacker plate from a local business location.

The Chairman reported that he had received an email from Will Edwards explaining the No Wrong Door (an HVOSS project) has been set up as a single point of contact for young people to access a collaborative multi agency team. It seeks to create a safe place for those between the ages 11 to 25 with access to information, support and guidance, workshops and positive activities.

This new initiative with the Parish Councils and Local Policing Teams is to provide a series of activities to engage young people enabling them to be listened to by the adult community and service deliverers and enabling the local community to develop its own provision with professional support.

Costs would be £100 per session to cover part staff costs including the Drift Trikes plus the hire of the hall.

Two issues were discussed - the previous session had not been well attended and these additional costings of approximately £1000 per annum had not been accounted for when setting in this year's precept/budget. After a lengthy

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discussion, it was unanimously agreed not to participate in this scheme at this time and the Chairman will responded to Will Edwards's email.

**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.

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

(4.2) Presentation - Mr Lewis Goldwater – Herefordshire Tree Warden Scheme

The Chairman welcomed Mr Lewis Goldwater

Mr Goldwater explained that for some time, he had been involved in the Herefordshire Tree Warden Network, which at one time was overseen by HCC but is now an entirely volunteer-led initiative. Its aims are to promote the Tree Warden scheme in the county so that every parish or parish group might take on a Tree Warden. The tree warden network is supported nationally by the Tree Council.

The role of a tree warden is to be active in promoting wider awareness of trees, organising planting initiatives, local tree surveys and education events in their local parish now, liaising with the parish council and even landowners. This is becoming more prevalent with issues around tree diseases such as Ash dieback and Oak decline which will have significant impacts on our road-side hedgerows, woods and the wider landscape.

Mr Goldwater explained that the annum subscription to be a member of the Tree Warden initiative is £25.00. After discussion, and it was agreed that Moreton on Lugg Parish Council would benefit from being a member of this scheme -however, it was dependant on getting a volunteer to undertake the role with its training programme etc. Wellington Parish Council have a volunteer who is actively participating in the scheme – so it was suggested the Clerk liaise with Wellington before making any definite decision with regard to advertising for a volunteer. Item to be deferred until the next meeting.

**5. Chairman's Report**

(5.1) The Chairman reported that he had spoken with the developer for The Beeches development and it is hoped to commence work on the access road in approximately 6 weeks' time. The developer warned that there will also be some disruptive work due to the sewage links being on the opposite of the road - with short term traffic light restrictions in place - but connection to the gas and electricity utilities should be fairly straight forward.

It was acknowledged with this time scale; the access road and associated disruption should have been completed before the planned resurfacing of the village road.

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## **6. VILLAGE HALL REPORT**

On behalf of Mrs P Taplin, Chairman Village Hall Committee, the chairman reported that there was a Village Hall meeting next week when plans to replace a damaged window and fire doors would be discussed. The Chairman confirmed that, based on the quotes received, there was enough funds in the Village Hall account to cover these costs.

The Treasurer explained there was £4562.03 in the current account with no large outstanding invoices.

There were various events in the pipeline including an Easter Fayre planned to take place on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2018 – 12 – 2.00p.m.

- 7. The MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** held on the 6<sup>th</sup> February 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 31<sup>st</sup> May 2018 but that BHIB Insurance broker would be taking over the existing policies and would honour the three-year commitment. This will be discussed again before the renewal date of 1<sup>st</sup> June 2018.

Current asset list was discussed and it was agreed to wait and see what the new External Auditor's require before making any adjustments to these figures.

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

New Data Protection Laws — a 63-page document – A GDPR toolkit for local councils prepared by NALC had accompanied the recent HALC Information Corner which had previously been circulated. It was acknowledged HALC recommend that Parish Councils are encouraged to form a working group to consider this toolkit and to report back to the April meeting. However, after discussion Councillors elected to wait until the Clerk had attended the Herefordshire Council training course on the 16<sup>th</sup> March and would make future decisions based on the facts/recommendations gained at that meeting.

Item deferred until the next meeting in April.

The Clerk explained that she had now finalised a Moreton on Lugg Parish Council Safeguarding Children and Adults Statement. A list of local Herefordshire telephone numbers with regard to reporting safeguarding issues

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will be displayed on the Notice Boards and, as previously agreed, the Statement will be further discussed and adopted at the Annual Parish Council meeting in May.

Post Box – item deferred

Solar Lamp – Cedar Close – item deferred.

The Clerk handed two 'Keep to footpath' signs to the Footpath's Officer who will arrange for them to be erected.

The telephone box – Cedar Close. The Clerk reminded Councillors that two years ago Anthony Bush had sent out a list of disused local telephone boxes with a request – do we wish to keep the box or have it removed by Herefordshire Council? This item was discussed and it was unanimously agreed that as the box was continually subject to vandalism and therefore posed a health and safety risk and, as it is no longer in use, that it should be removed. The box has now been removed and the ground left in a tidy state

The Community Governance review is ongoing – notices are on the website and in The Hereford Times. Any update on the Item to be discussed at the next meeting.

## **8. Ongoing Planning applications: land West of Church Farm**

(8.1) There was no current update available but the Chairman explained that a detailed planning application would now have to be drawn up and submitted before work can start. Any further update will be discussed at the next meeting.

## **9. PLAY PARK REPORT**

Cllr Styles reported that he was hopeful the mole had been removed from the football field.

Cllr Styles presented a list of items that needed to be undertaken in the park – but he reported that most of these can be dealt with by the working committee.

There was discussion about further work on the trees in the wooded area – and it was agreed that, if it is outside the period set aside for bird nesting, the Clerk would ask the contractor to undertake the work as soon as weather permitting.

It was agreed that the marking out of the football pitch should go ahead at an approximate cost of £50.00 which would be recovered from the annum Play Park budget.

It was agreed that wood sold from the Sub Station; Avenue and Play Park would be priced at £30.00 per load. A cheque for £30 had been deposited for the Sub Station wood; another cheque was in the pipe line for the Avenue wood. There

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are some large rounds of wood still to be collected but this has been delayed due to recent severe weather conditions.

## **10. TO RECEIVE REPORTS/UPDATES**

The Clerk explained that she had made enquiries as to whether it was necessary for the Litter Picker to have a Waste Carrier Licence to cover his work within the village and confirmed that this is not a necessity.

With regard to insurance, the clerk explained that she had made enquiries with the Aon and the duties are covered under the present insurance policy. However, a Contract of Service would need to be drawn up and filed with the Insurance Company and a paper copy filed with the Council's copy.

A new list of litter picking duties would need to be prepared and agreed which would then form part of the required Contract of Service – the Clerk will make further enquiries with regard to the wording of a Contract of Service and report back to the next meeting. In the meantime, The Chairman will discuss and agree a revised list of duties for the new financial year 2018-19.

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

It had been reported that there is an ongoing problem with motorbike riders using the bridleway/sewage work roadway – but it was agreed this is a matter for the landowner and the police and that the Parish Council could not get involved with this issue.

## **11. TO RECEIVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT:**

(11.1) Payments since last meeting - none

(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 –March work sheet**

Clerk reported that she had liaised with Locality Steward and lengthsmen with regard to the crumbling wall by Post Office Green and had been advised there should be no attempt made to repair at this time. The Clerk confirmed that she had reported the state of the walkway between Cedar Close and St Peters Close and would follow up with the Locality Steward if any repair has been logged.

There was discussion on the tree stumps in Nursery Drive – it was agreed that any damage/costs involved which may result due to removal of the tree stumps would be the responsibility of the landowner.

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12.1 The Clerk confirmed that she had received a copy of D C Gardening's Contractor's Insurance Certification for 2018/19.

**13. Correspondence received:** It was agreed that the Flag would be flown to acknowledge Commonwealth Day. The correspondence with regard to Big Lunches associated again with the Commonwealth Day had been circulated.

The Clerk explained that she had recently received several emails from a local resident – highlighting various issues he is wished brought to the Parish Council's attention.

The first referred to an issue he had raised in the past – and was with regard to the replanting of daffodils at the village entrance and along the grass verges. The second issue referred to the possibility of erecting white entrance gates at the village entrance with associated flower pots which would enhance the village entrance. Third issue referred to a large pothole which could cause injury and may result in a subsequent compensation claim. The resident also asked why parishioners were having to point out village road deficiencies when there should be a fool proof system for inspection and follow-up in place.

These issues were discussed at length -

With regard to the replanting of bulbs – it was agreed that this would have to be delayed until the autumn but even this timescale would be subject to any disruption caused by this new development. The Locality Steward did point out however that before any replanting a cultivation licence from Balfour Beatty would be required.

The clerk explained that as the suggestion with regard to entrance gates could be seen as part of the Gateway Scheme she had approached Balfour Beatty for more information on costings etc. It was explained to the Clerk that as a matter of Health and Safety – anything erected on the highway has to be at the discretion of Herefordshire Council/Balfour Beatty otherwise completely unsuitable/unacceptable items could be randomly erected along any highway and these would not meet the required health and safety standards and could cause visibility problems etc.

The Clerk received the following email from Ray Wallace – Senior Engineer (Network Regulation) | Balfour Beatty | Services | Living Places

*I've looked through some of the planning documents relating to that new development and I get the impression that money will be forthcoming from that development to pay for gateway treatments of some sort at the entry from the A49 into the village. No idea on timescales for the new development but if it is not too far away.*

In view of this email and other similar documents supporting this proposal, it was decided to postpone any further action on this item for the time being.

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With regard to the report of a pothole about 15" diameter and 2-3 inches deep – the Clerk confirmed that this was immediately reported to the Locality Steward – and has since been inspected, marked out and logged with a job number. With regard to reporting pot holes, the Clerk explained that she had responded to the resident query and explained that there is a system in place for local residents to report pot holes on line to Herefordshire Council/Balfour Beatty. The Locality Steward visits and inspects the village road on a regular basis; the lengthsman; the litter picker and Parish Councillors all inspect for and report road deficiencies – but support from local residents is essential and much appreciated.

The Clerk was asked to respond to the resident explaining the reasons and decisions taken with regard to the replanting of daffodils; the erection of entrance gates and to thank the resident for reporting the above pot hole which would hopefully be filled within the next couple of days.

**14. TO CONSIDER MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS FOR NEXT  
AGENDA – not for discussion.**

**Date of next meeting: Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2018**

**Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30p.m.**

Signed:

Date:

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## **Ward Area - Highways Matters**

### **Potholes**

The severe wintery weather has more than likely caused greater damage to our road network increasing the number and size of potholes.

### **Velocity Patcher Pothole Repairs**

Balfour Beatty have been repairing potholes with the Velocity Patcher, which has been operating on C and minor U roads but away from properties.

I would like to encourage everyone to report any defects which need attention (including emergencies) to please either log onto the Herefordshire Council website or by phoning 01432 261800.

### **Herefordshire Council website is the one-stop-shop for up to date information**

Maps and timetables for grass cutting and pot holes are now available on the Council's website.

<https://myaccount.herefordshire.gov.uk/report-a-pothole>

If you wish to make a claim as a result of damage to your vehicle please use [https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200196/roads/206/highway\\_claims](https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200196/roads/206/highway_claims)

Report fly tipping it will be dealt with in a much quicker time frame. by either calling the Contact Centre on 01432 261800 or by logging the fly tipping via the

council website on the links below as your

enquiry [https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200226/report\\_a\\_problem/98/fly\\_tipping](https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200226/report_a_problem/98/fly_tipping)

### **Re: Road Markings – White Lines worn away on C1125 at the Sutton St. Nicholas crossroads & along the road to Aylestone Hill roundabout, Hereford.**

Concerns have been raised about the lack of white lines along the C1125 at the Sutton St. Nicholas crossroads & from Sutton to Hereford. I have reported this matter to our Locality Steward who has advised that both of these lining jobs are logged as high priority works.

### **Update on Road Closures**

Unfortunately, I was given the WRONG information by Balfour Beatty about a road closure relating to the C1120 at Moreton Bridge (amongst a number of conflicting emails & phone calls on the matter) I received another email today from Balfour Beatty (with the main message) as follows:

*“We are repairing Moreton Bridge which is in Eye Lane, near Berrington Hall, Leominster and NOT Moreton on Lugg Bridge.*

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*My sincere apologies for any confusion that this may have caused.”*

I have spoken to the Cabinet Member Cllr. Durkin at length about this unsatisfactory situation and I will be sending him a detailed report, strongly requesting that in future myself & all Parish Clerks are provided with the correct information & in a timely manner on all road closures within Sutton Walls Ward area accordingly.

**C1125 – Bend near Holbatch Lane, Marden**

**Pre Surface Dressing Patching Works**

Wednesday, 7 March 2018 to (and including) Friday, 9 March 2018

Road closed 08.00 hours to 17.00 hours

**Launch of new anti-litter campaign**

The new Stop the Drop Litter Pledge campaign has been launched at Herefordshire Litter Forum.

The Litter Forum, organised by volunteer litter groups and Herefordshire Council, brought together over 40 pro-active litter picking groups, businesses and organisations committed to working together to tackle litter in Herefordshire.

The aim of the campaign is to encourage individuals, community groups, businesses, schools and organisations to sign up to the Pledge and to commit to taking part in organising litter picks in their communities; with businesses keeping car parks and areas around their premises free of litter.

To learn more about the Stop the Drop Campaign and to sign up to the Stop the Drop Pledge please visit [www.herefordshire.gov.uk/stoppedrop](http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/stoppedrop) or telephone 01432 383449.

For more information on the Great British Spring Clean please visit [www.keepbritaintidy.org](http://www.keepbritaintidy.org)

Report by Kema Guthrie 06/03/2018

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