

3rd April 2018

MORETON ON LUGG PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Moreton-on-Lugg Parish Council meeting
held in Moreton-on-Lugg Village Hall on
Tuesday 3rd April 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. Richard Styles; Cllr B Jackson; Cllr B Garbett; and Cllr V. Javens

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

The Chairman welcomed those present to the April meeting.

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllr D Preece; Cllr. C Crowley; Cllr C Boden
- 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** – no representative present or recent newsletter available.
- 4. WARD COUNCILLOR’S REPORT** – please see copy of report attached to these minutes.
 - (4.1) OPEN DISCUSSION** – with local residents present at meeting and matters raised between meetings.

With no items raised the Chairman closed the Open session

- 5. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT** – The Chairman reported that he had approached the resident who lives near to the Cedar Close – St Peter’s walk through and he had agreed to have a solar light erected on his property. This was discussed and it was agreed that the Clerk should approach the Locality Steward and Lengthsman and report back to the next meeting.

Cedar Close will be closed between 11th and 12th April for resurfacing. All residents have been informed and there are public notices on display.

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The Chairman reported that he had now emailed Balfour Beatty to highlight his concerns over the continuing confusion with regard to the closure of the 'Moreton Bridge'. This incorrect information continues to be distributed despite correspondence to the Works Control Manager from the Parish Clerk and the Ward Councillor. It was suggested that to prevent future confusion the village bridge should be identified as the Moreton on Lugg bridge – and the one at Eye as the Moreton bridge.

There is a public notice in the Hereford Times stating that the railway line will be closed on the 14th April for one night. As the Parish Council have not been informed and, in light of the recent unreliable information, the Chairman will check with Balfour Beatty that this is correct information.

The Chairman confirmed he will be writing to Will Edwards of the No Wrong Door Project Co-ordinator - Herefordshire Voluntary Organisations Support Service with regard to the recent Youth Activity Days. It was agreed that the Chairman would explain that, after discussion at the Moreton Parish Council meetings in March and in April, the Parish Council have decided not to proceed on two counts.

1. We still have no adults come forward to take part in the activities.
 2. The cost – the Parish Council have no budgeted for such activities in the precept, and although we have managed to fund the £26.00 for the hire of the hall on the past 2 occasions, those expenses would jump to £126.00 per session. These costs need to be advised earlier in the negotiations, even if they are introduced on a sliding scale, so that the Parish Council would know what they need to allow within their annual budget.
- 6. VILLAGE HALL REPORT** – on behalf of the Village Hall Chairman, the Chairman reported a very successful Easter Fayre raising £425 for the funds. There are plans to start afternoon tea and chat sessions in May on a Wednesday afternoon – initially for one month. On 21st April there will be a Sausage and Mash lunch in the hall – everyone very welcome.

The accounts show a healthy balance of £4070.56 with all outstanding invoices paid.

- 7. THE MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** held on the 6th March 2017 were agreed as a true record and it was proposed, seconded and agreed that they be adopted and signed by the Chairman.

Clerk's update:

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Tree warden – after discussion it was agreed to advertise the post of volunteer Tree Warden in the next newsletter.

The Clerk gave a brief update on GDPR and the Data Protection training held on the 16th March 2018. The Clerk explained that various options were now becoming available with regard to appointing a Data Protection Officer and it was agreed that the Clerk should continue to accrue information and bring back to the next meeting.

It was discussed and agreed the Clerk should apply for SLCC membership. The joining fee and annual subscription fee of £160 would be divided between the Clerk's four councils. A cheque for £40 was raised and signed.

Post Box update - unfortunately, after some discussion, it was agreed not to proceed with the purchase of a new Post Box at a cost of £500 and that residents should be encouraged to take their mail into the post office itself at busy times of the year i.e. December.

Discussion on possibility of solar lamp - see Chairman report.

Update Community Governance review – Clerk confirmed this is on going and that there had been an extension of the deadline in order to allow more folk to respond. Deferred until the next meeting.

Information Corner – no up to date issue available.

8. PLANNING

(8.1) Planning application: 172919 - West of Church – nothing further to report since last meeting.

(8.2) Update on The Beeches - this development is progressing well. There have been no adverse comments with regard to style and the brick work is nearly complete. Access to the sewage system is planned for middle of May - the trench will be 3 1/2 metres deep and village traffic will be controlled by traffic lights.

9. PLAY PARK REPORT – the weather has prevented any ongoing/planned works to be carried out since the last meeting.

10. TO RECEIVE REPORTS/UPDATES

(10.1) The **Footpath Officer** reported that, due to the recent adverse weather, the footpaths are very wet with flooding across the bridle path.

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11. TO RECEIVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT:

(11.1) Payments since last meeting; Receipts £30 per wood.

(11.2) To consider payment of accounts - schedule of payments had been circulated. After discussion, it was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed that the outstanding invoices should be paid.

The Clerk again asked about a formal Contract of Service to be drawn up to cover the litter picker duties as this needed to be filed with the insurance policy which is due for renewal on the 1st June. The Chairman agreed to draw this up – it was agreed that the existing list of duties was acceptable but that the exact number of litter and dog litter bins should be itemised.

Clerk's hours and salary annual review

After discussion, it was unanimously agreed that the Clerk's salary would increase by one increment to Grade 24 as from the 1st April 2018. The Clerk explained that there had been no indication, as yet, of any 'cost of living' increase for 2018 -19 – any information with regard to this usually comes via HALC.

After discussion, it was unanimously agreed between the Clerk and Councillors that her hours would remain at 9 hours per week – but that any increase would be discussed at the budget/precept setting meeting in November.

12.HIGHWAYS / LENGTHSMAN SCHEME – April work sheet – no outstanding jobs at the moment.

The Clerk confirmed that she was in receipt of a copy of the Contractor's Insurance Policy 2018/19 issued to D C Gardening and this will be filed in the lengthsman folder.

There was some discussion regarding the purchase of a solar/battery operated radar speed sign. It was acknowledged that Moreton on Lugg already had the required base for such a sign – and it was agreed the Clerk would follow this up with Balfour Beatty/Locality Steward and report back to the next meeting.

13. CORRESPONDENCE: Examination of Traveller Sites Development Plan – had been circulated.

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

It was then, with regret, that the Parish Council were asked to accept Chairman Cllr Kim Cooper's wish to retire as Chairman from Parish Council with immediate effect

Cllr. Pat Spong proposed Cllr Richard Styles as Chairman and this was seconded by Cllr Barbara Jackson. Cllr Styles accepted the proposal and will stay in post until the May Annual Parish Council Meeting when the Chairman and Vice Chairman positions are re-elected for the 2018-2019 year.

Cllr R. Styles to sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Chairman.

Cllr S K Cooper then informed the Parish Council that he also wished to resign as a Parish Councillor with immediate effect.

It was at this point, also with regret, the Parish Council were asked to accept Cllr P Spong's wish to resign as Vice Chairman and as Parish Councillor with immediate effect.

It was proposed by Cllr R Styles and seconded by Cllr V. Javens that Cllr B Jackson become Vice Chairman. Cllr Jackson accepted the proposal and will stay in post until the Annual Parish Council Meeting to be held in May when the positions of Chairman and Vice Chairman are re-elected.

The Clerk to inform the Elections Officer and notice of the vacancies will be displayed on the Notice Boards. The Parish Council should then, hopefully, be in a position to co-opt new Councillors at the May meeting.

The Parish Councillors present expressed the gratitude to Cllrs Cooper and Spong for their long and dedicated service to the Parish Council.

Cllr Kim Cooper will attend the Annual Parish Meeting to give the Chairman's report for 2017-2018. Cllr Pat Spong will also attend the Annual Parish Meeting which will allow for a more formal vote of thanks to be expressed to them both.

Chairman closed meeting at 9.05p.m.

DATE of next meeting: Tuesday 1st May 2018
Please note: 7.00p.m. start Annual Parish Meeting followed by

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Annual Parish Council Meeting.

Signed:

Date:

Ward Councillor Guthrie Herefordshire Councillor's Report

Re: Grade II star Listed Bridges – Moreton Bridge & Laystone Bridge

Concerns have been raised again about the many large vehicles which travel over these bridges. Recently, Laystone Bridge has been struck again. In response to these concerns I will be arranging to meet with our Locality Steward to review the problems & see what can be done to further protect both bridges.

Pothole repair funding announced for Herefordshire

Herefordshire roads were badly affected by the recent severe weather will benefit from an additional £1.25m of central government funding for repairs.

This funding, which totals £1,252,647, will be used to repair more roads, addressing the equivalent of 23,000 potholes and build in protection to help make the county's roads more resistant to future severe weather.

Cedar Close Resurfacing

I am pleased that Cedar Close is going to have some resurfacing works done – scheduled on 11th & 12th April 2018

New and improved (WISH) website launched

The county's "Wellbeing Information & Signposting for Herefordshire" - **WISH service**, run by Herefordshire Council, is changing and now features a new and improved website.

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The website covers information, advice, services and activities for residents of all ages across the county. The website's new features, include a new design which makes it easier to navigate, an improved search function, more up to date and relevant information and a handy what's on calendar and news section.

To find out how WISH can help you and your family, visit www.wisherefordshire.org.

Re: Update on recent Changes to Cabinet & their support Members as of 13th March 2018

Councillor Jonathan Lester - New Leader of the Council / Corporate strategy and budget

National external liaison support: Councillor Roger Phillips

Regional external liaison support: Councillor Tony Johnson

Councillor Nigel Shaw

Deputy Leader / Finance, housing and corporate services

Councillor Harry Bramer

Contracts and assets

Councillor David Harlow

Economy and communications

Economy and communications support member: Councillor Jon Johnson

Councillor Paul Rone

Health and wellbeing

Councillor Philip Price

Infrastructure

Councillor Barry Durkin

Transport and regulatory services

Councillor Elissa Swinglehurst

Young people and children's wellbeing

Young people and children's wellbeing support member: Councillor Jenny Hyde

Fire Authority responds to PCC takeover of Fire Service

(Key points taken from Hereford & Worcester Fire & Rescue Service's press release on 26th March 2018)

"The Chairman of Hereford & Worcester Fire Authority, Cllr Roger Phillips, has expressed his disappointment at the Home Secretary's decision to allow the West Mercia Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC), John Campion, to take over the governance of the Fire Service – but has also signaled the Authority's willingness to

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proactively work with the PCC to ensure a smooth transition period whilst, at the same time, maintaining the high standards of service delivery currently provided by the Service and its staff.

The Fire Service already has a number of key collaboration projects it is undertaking with both West Mercia Police and Shropshire Fire & Rescue Service, such as the move of HWFRS headquarters to the police headquarters at Hindlip Hall later this year. These projects will be unaffected by the change in governance.

The Home Secretary's decision allows the West Mercia PCC to take over governance of the two Fire & Rescue Services in the region (Hereford & Worcester and Shropshire), and indicative timescales from the Home Office for the handover have been set around June / July this year."

To view the full news article, go to - www.hwfire.org.uk

Report by Kema Guthrie 01/04/2018