

MORETON ON LUGG PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Moreton-on-Lugg Village Hall
on
Tuesday 3rd July 2018

Moreton on Lugg Parish Council website: moretononlugg.org

Parish Clerk – Lesley Hay

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Councillors: Cllr V. Javens; Cllr Richard Styles (Chairman); Cllr D Preece; Cllr B Garbett; Cllr C Crowley; Cllr B Jackson (Vice Chairman).

Parish Clerk: Lesley Hay. 4 Members of the public

The Chairman welcome those present to the July meeting and extended a warm welcome back Cllr Carol Crowley who had recently been unwell.

MINUTES:

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from Ward Cllr Guthrie.
2. **UPDATE ON PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCIES** –co-option - no names have come forward – to be deferred until next meeting in September.
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND WRITTEN APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATIONS** by Parish Councillors – none received
4. **TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE LOCAL POLICE OFFICER** – no representative present. No recent Newsletter available.
5. **WARD COUNCILLOR’S REPORT** – Ward Cllr Guthrie sent apologies for her absence. A copy of her report was read out by the Chairman – copy of which is attached to these minutes.
 - (5.1) **OPEN DISCUSSION** – with local residents present at meeting and matters raised between meetings.

(5.2) Lime Tree – Ordnance Close development. A local resident had made contact with the Parish Council with regard to worries over the safety and preservation of a Lime Tree during the development at Ordnance Close. Whilst the resident was very grateful for the help and response from Ward Cllr Guthrie and the Parish Council,

he was very disappointed with the length of time to had taken to get a response from Herefordshire Council - 33days to answer a very simple query.

Following explanation and discussion, it was acknowledged that the tree was now protected with the appropriate netting etc. and hopefully would suffer no damage due to the ongoing development; additional traffic; machinery; excavations etc.

The resident explained that there had been confusion with regard to working hours as shown in the CMP but the wording has now been amended to read: Working hours - Monday – Friday 7.00a.m. – 6.00p.m. Saturday 9.00a.m. – 1.00p.m – however at no time on a Sunday; Bank Holidays or Public holiday.

The resident also reported that having spoken with the owner of the ground, that it is their intention to lay the road infrastructure and install the utilities but then the plots will be marketed individually. This will mean there will be at least 10 planning applications submitted and that the houses will all vary in size and design.

(5.3) The Clerk reported that there had been a problem between meetings with regard to the siting of the bridleway dog bin. However, this problem had been quickly managed with the help of D C Gardening and – with kind permission from the local farmer/landowner – the bin had now been repositioned. The Clerk was asked to write a letter of thanks to the landowner, to confirm the landowner's agreement with the siting of the bin on their land and to confirm the Parish Council's responsibility for the emptying of the bin.

(5.4) Speeding traffic through village –SID - further to recent meetings between Marden Parish Council; Sutton St Nicholas Parish Council and representatives from Moreton Parish Council – it has been suggested that maybe the three councils could share the costs of a SID.

It was noted that Marden and Sutton St Nicholas do already own a SID but it is out of action at the moment and in need of professional repair. It was acknowledged that any form of partnership between the three Parish Councils will have to be an agenda item and agreed at the various PC meetings before any agreement can be reached.

In the meantime, S & A maybe prepared to help Moreton Parish Council with financial support towards the hire of a SID from Balfour Beatty – Moreton already have the base but the costs of hire are £250 + VAT per month.

Cllr Garbett had very kindly investigated and produced brochures of a portable SID which the Parish Council could purchase and move around the village provided it was placed on independently owned land.

This item was discussed at length and it was decided to defer until the September meeting by which time the other two Parish Councils may have discussed and agreed on a possible three-way hire and the associated costings maybe available.

Heritage bridges and traffic issues with the Ward - have been subject to various meetings and the minutes of these meetings are available on the Marden Parish Council website – www.mardenherefordshire-pc.gov.uk. It was generally agreed to look into the possibility of erecting warning signs – but that these should be in ‘picture form’ rather than written warnings as many of the drivers are from abroad where English is not their first language. The approx. cost of each sign would be in the region of £65 + VAT and it was thought 4 signs would be required.

Item to be deferred until September meeting when hopefully draft signs will be available.

Future road closures in the area were discussed – details of these available on the Hereford Times website.

The delay in the resurfacing of the C1120 was briefly discussed – see Ward Cllr Guthrie’s report at the end of these minutes.

Close Open session

6. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

(6.1) Cllr Garbett and Cllr Styles recently had an opportunity to meet and have a ‘walkabout’ with Locality Steward, Phil Pankhurst. They both found this very informative and expressed thanks to the Locality Steward for his time, support and commitment to Moreton on Lugg Village.

(6.2) Update on replanting daffodils – it was decided to postpone any further action on this proposal until there is more up to date news on the time scale involved with Church Farm development.

7. VILLAGE HALL REPORT

The Chairman of the Village Hall Committee read out a short report – outlining that a fund-raising event is being held every month. Unfortunately, last month’s Big Breakfast was very poorly attended but, fortunately, some of the left-over food had not been defrosted so can be recycled for the Summer Fete.

The next event is in fact the Summer Fete on the 14th July – volunteers from the Parish Council would be most welcome.

A representative from the Fire Protection Firm is due to do an inspection tomorrow 4th July after which he will be invited to outline his initial findings - it is hoped that he will not find anything too onerous which will require extra funding. There will be a final written report – the expected costs associated with this will be in the region of £150 - £200.

The next meeting of the Village Hall Committee is tomorrow – Wednesday 4th July – to discuss the Fete and initial findings following the Fire Prevention Officer's visit.

A written request had been submitted to the Parish Council for £195 to cover the full cost of replacing of a pane of glass in the main hall. There was discussion on this request based on the fact that the Village Hall bank account shows a balance of £4037 and it was understood the Village Hall would now be self-financing with the various monthly fund-raising events etc.

Mrs Taplin explained that the Committee were trying to keep a reserve to cover the next two years in case any major expenditure should arise.

A proposal was tabled that the Parish Council should contribute maybe half of the costs – however, when a vote was taken – by a majority of 3 to 2 it was passed that the Parish Council would, with regret, not financially support this request.

8. MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on the 5th June 2018 were agreed to be a true record and it was unanimously voted that they be adopted and signed by the Chairman.

It was proposed that in future there should be an item – Matters arising from the Minutes – and the clerk agreed to add this to future agendas.

Clerk's update:

(8.1) Data Protection – no further update – item to remain on the agenda

(8.2) Solar lamp – the resident has again been approached and with his agreement confirmed, the Clerk to liaise with D C Gardening and to get the lamp purchased and installed. The Clerk will provide D C Gardening with details of the resident and his address.

(8.3) Governance review – consultation phase - leave as agenda item

9. PLANNING - to discuss any new applications – none to date.

(9.1) No update on Plan application: 172919 - West of Church House

(9.2) No update on The Beeches development

(9.3) No update on land adjacent to The Beeches

10. PLAY PARK REPORT

(10.1) After discussion and reference to the Precept/Budget for 2018-19 - it was agreed that the Clerk would arrange for Barton Hyett Associated to carry out a tree condition and hazard survey in the Play Area and woodland - quotation £375.00 + VAT of £75.00 = £450.00

In general – the equipment is in OK order; the paths have been cleared and should remain Ok until a strim in October/November. There are still minor acts of vandalism but all fairly quiet at the moment. It was reported that there is still a lack of parental presence in the park.

The Play Quest inspection had taken place and the report was shared. The ROSPA inspection has been requested before the start of the school holidays – Clerk to send reminder.

11. TO RECEIVE REPORTS/UPDATES

(11.1) Footpath Officer's report - all in good condition. Clerk to liaise with D C Gardening with regard to strimming from Village road to new bridleway gate.

12. TO RECEIVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT:

(12.1) Payments since last meeting - none

(12.2) To consider payment of accounts - schedule of payments circulated. It was unanimously agreed that these invoices should be paid and the clerk raised the cheques and these were signed.

(12.3) Monmouthshire Building Society – the appropriate forms have all been signed – the clerk will initially take the paperwork into Travitt Hicks in Hereford and the new signatories will follow with their identification papers.

(12.4) The Clerk explained to the Parish Council that the External Auditor had recently requested a full audit to be carried out on the Parish Council's 2017-18 accounts due to the fact that they had shown an overall balance in excess of £25,000. The Clerk would now prepare and forward a full set of accounts to the external auditor and their costs to audit these accounts would be £200. The Clerk had been given an extended deadline until the 16th July to prepare and present these documents.

13. LENGTHSMAN SCHEME – July/August work sheet – strimming bridleway; erecting solar lamp; clearing debris from St Peter's Close and generally checking on weeds throughout the village.

14. CORRESPONDENCE: none to date that has not been covered under previous agenda items.

The Clerk explained that Herefordshire Council have produce a new revised Code of Conduct and Declaration of Interest forms. This revised documentation had been circulated. After discussion, it was agreed to remain with the original Code of Conduct adopted at the May meeting and to review the situation next year which will be an election year.

The Clerk reminder Councillors that funds had been set aside to purchase a projection and screen for the use at the precept meetings and for possible use by firms/ associations wishing to hire the Village Hall. After discussion, it was agreed not to purchase a projector or screen at this time.

15. TO CONSIDER MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS FOR NEXT

AGENDA – not for discussion – none.

Deferred items: On going planning applications; SID; Heritage bridge signs; Update on Data Protection; Solar lamp;

DATE of next meeting: Tuesday 4th September 2018

The chairman closed the meeting closed at 9.00p.m.

Reminder – **No August meeting.**

Signed:

Date:

Ward Councillor's Report

Re: Highways Matters

Re: C1120 Village Road Resurfacing from A49 to the Church and Moreton on Lugg Bridge to Marden

I was previously advised that resurfacing would be carried out on the C1120 village road from A49 to the Church and that the section of road from Moreton on Lugg bridge to Marden would be resurfaced too. However, when I recently asked for timescales on these works I was advised by Balfour Beatty that funding for the resurfacing from A49 to the Church had been withdrawn and the other works Moreton on Lugg Bridge to Marden were not even in the Annual Plan. This is a most disappointing and frustrating situation for everyone. I have been working on this issue as a matter of priority & to date have taken the following actions:

I alerted Cllr. Durkin (Cabinet Member for Transport & Roads) to seek his assistance & I have invited him to a future meeting of the Parish Council.

I have raised the matter at Senior level with Balfour Beatty and I have just received a detailed response as to why the road will unfortunately not be resurfaced at the current time.

Re: Moreton Road - Road Works

"The roadworks consist the creation of passing bays along Moreton Road, as outlined on the attached plan 01C, as well as widening at the main quarry entrance (plan 101). It isn't envisaged that these works will impact on the A49".

Re: Grass Cutting – A49

In the past, I have had to alert Highways England to the problem of long grass adjacent to the highway causing visibility problems. However, this year, I'm pleased to report that due to the recent mowing of the verges along the A49 - I've sent a "THANK YOU" message to Highways England accordingly. In addition, I enquired about when the next meeting with Highways England will be scheduled.

Re: Laystone & Moreton on Lugg Bridge update

At Marden Parish Council on 11th June 2018 the Heritage Bridges (Laystone & Moreton on Lugg Bridge) and traffic issues within the ward were discussed. Representatives from Moreton on Lugg & Sutton St. Nicholas Parish Councils were in attendance and representatives from S & A Produce. Balfour Beatty had provided information on the possible options which included advice on weight limits, dragons' teeth marking and reflective strips. A major concern of heavy traffic causing damage to both of the bridges on a regular basis was voiced by all.

Since the meeting – It seems to be most appropriate for each Parish to work on their own options. Marden PC have been advised that Dragons Teeth aren't a possibility for Laystone Bridge, so the only likely solution is extra signage. I understand that Balfour Beatty have advised that, dragons teeth marking before Moreton on Lugg bridge on Moreton's side might be possible but not on the Marden side which needs

extra manoeuvring space. No doubt, the Parish Council will be further considering this matter at a future Parish Council meeting.

Re: C1122 - Laystone Bridge Repairs – 2 week road closure postponed

I have been advised by Balfour Beatty that works started on Laystone Bridge at the end of May but it became apparent very early on that there were (SSSI - Site of Special Scientific Interest) issues, therefore works were stopped immediately. Balfour Beatty are in discussions with Natural England and as soon as a review has taken place – this will inform when repair works can resume.

Re: Audio casting of public Council meetings

Following a successful trial in 2017, Herefordshire Council's public meetings are now even more accessible with the introduction of live audio streaming. Once a public meeting closes, the streaming converts into 'audio minutes' – available to playback on a laptop or mobile device, and without the need to attend a meeting in person.

Additional changes have been proposed to further enhance the openness and visibility of public meetings and elected members. [From 7th June, Cabinet meetings will be rescheduled to start at 10am and the future use of live video streaming will be considered, following a motion passed by Full Council on 9th March 2018.](#)

To access live or archived audio minutes, sign up for meeting reminders, or to view meeting agenda items, go to www.herefordshire.gov.uk/meetings

RE: Keep Herefordshire Warm is a partnership between Herefordshire Council and Marches Energy Agency

Herefordshire households are being encouraged to access funding for loft or cavity wall insulation before new rules change who will qualify for grants. Herefordshire Council's energy advice service, Keep Herefordshire Warm, can help.

This summer, householders who require insulation could qualify for a grant towards the cost of works. There is no need to be in receipt of benefits or on a low income. In future, scheme changes mean that only low income households will qualify for grants.

Summer is an ideal time to undertake energy efficiency improvements and get ready for winter. Households without adequate loft and cavity wall insulation are likely to be overspending by £275 per year.

Grants are available for cavity wall insulation and loft insulation. The recommended level of loft insulation in homes is 270mm (about 10 inches). Homes with less than 100mm (4 inches) of insulation in their loft can access grants to top-up insulation to the recommended level.

Keep Herefordshire Warm advisors can offer advice and refer households to accredited installers who can complete the works. They are particularly keen to hear from residents who may have moved into new homes with poor insulation or those who have lived in the same property for a long period, where it is likely that insulation standards are not up to current standards.

For more information and to register for funding, contact the Keep Herefordshire Warm team for free on **0800 677 1785** or email khw@mea.org.uk

There is more advice about winter health, warmth and safety on the [Herefordshire Council website](#).

Report by Kema Guthrie 3rd July 2018