

## MORETON ON LUGG PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting** held in Moreton-on-Lugg Village Hall  
on  
**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2018**

Moreton on Lugg Parish Council website: [moretononlugg.org](http://moretononlugg.org)

Parish Clerk – Lesley Hay

### **PRESENT:**

Councillors: Cllr Richard Styles (Chairman); Cllr D Preece; Cllr B Garbett; Cllr C Crowley; Cllr C. Boden;

Parish Clerk: Lesley Hay. 4 Members of the public.

### **MINUTES:**

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Cllr B Jackson (Vice Chairman).
- 2. UPDATE ON PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCIES** - no one has officially come forward but persons have shown interest. To remain in agenda.
- 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.
- 5. WARD COUNCILLOR'S REPORT** – A copy of Ward Cllr Guthrie's report had been circulated and a copy is attached to these minutes.

Ward Cllr Guthrie explained that, after discussion with the Chairman, it had been decided to defer Cllr Durkin's proposed visit to Moreton Parish Council. This decision was based on the fact that not all Councillors could be present at the meeting and the Moreton stretch of the C1120 had now been resurfaced.

After discussion with Marden Parish Council it has been decided to invite Cllr Durkin to one of their future meetings and an invitation will be extended to both Sutton St Nicholas and Moreton Parish Councils. Cllr Durkin has requested that, if possible, he would like to have an idea in advance of any specific questions so that he can research and be in a better to respond on the night.

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

Mr Parry requested funding for a new pair of boots – however, after discussion it was unanimously agreed that this would not be appropriate as Mr Parry is a contractor to the Parish Council and therefore works on a self-employed basis.

There was discussion regarding the recent incident involving local youth letting off fireworks on the main village road itself. The Chairman is aware of the culprits and will have a word. The question of future firework parties/displays was briefly discussed but deferred until next year.

The state of the road up by St Peters Close (between 80 - 92) where the tractor is turning into the field to feed the cattle is causing concern. The mud on the road is making the road slippery and dangerous. However, previously, when the farmer was asked to clear the mud, he went up there with a brush and brushed it all off the road but into the gullies. The gullies have recently been cleared by Balfour Beatty.

It was acknowledged that the farmer has a legal obligation to clear the mud off the road – and, to put up warning signs - but it needs cleaning completely off the road and not brushed into the gutter/gullies and so causing further problems

It was initially proposed that a letter should be sent to the farmer - however, as Cllr Jackson has 'liaised' with the farmer in the past, the Clerk to ask Cllr Jackson if she would visit to discuss the problem and possible solution.

In addition, Cllr Jackson to be asked to check again on the trees overhanging the village road from the churchyard and the farm - apparently one of the trees has been trimmed back but the other two remain a problem - particularly the one on the farm land.

It was brought to the Parish Council's attention that the lid from the new bin placed in Post office Green had now been forced off its hinges and had been missing for several weeks. The Clerk to liaise with D C Gardening to see if it possible to purchase a replacement lid.

Despite valiant attempts at repairs, the rubbish bin situated at the entrance to the Play Park which is owned and emptied by Balfour Beatty needs to be replaced. There have been previous requests to Balfour Beatty for a replacement but it is understood that they are not in a position to replace rubbish bins during this financial year. The Clerk was asked to again liaise with D C Gardening to request a quote to replace this bin at the Parish Council's expense.

There was a request for the Parish Clerk's name and email address to be displayed on the Notice Boards in the village. The Clerk agreed for this information to be made available.

## **Close Open session - closed**

**6. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT** – The Chairman reported that he had recently had to call in Pest Control to deal with a very large hornets' nest. This had been dealt with but to date no invoice received.

The Chairman reported that he had been approached by Michael Jelf – Architect for Bell Homes - who are in the process of purchasing the land at Church House Farm. Mr Jelf has asked if he can visit the Parish Council to give a short 15-minute presentation during one of their monthly meetings. It was agreed that this could be at the next meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> December – but it must be stressed that this is not an open discussion session – the Councillors can ask questions as appropriate but that the general public will get their opportunity to discuss the proposals at an open Public Exhibition planned in the New Year.

Further correspondence including a copy of the proposed pre-planning application will be circulated when available - hopefully prior to the presentation.

## **7. VILLAGE HALL REPORT – no report available.**

However, it was confirmed that Mrs Pam Taplin had resigned as Chairman and Mr Christopher Rogers has been elected as her successor. It was agreed the Clerk should send Mr Rogers an email inviting him to attend the next meeting of the Parish Council. The Village Hall committee have also elected a new Safety Officer.

An up to date accounts sheet will be made available at the next meeting.

**8. MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> October were agreed to be a true record and it was unanimously voted that they be adopted and signed by the Chairman.

There were no matters raised from the Minutes.

## **Clerk's update:**

(8.1) Solar lamp – it was unanimously agreed to send Mr Fellows a letter of thanks from the Parish Council for allowing the solar lamp to be placed in his garden. It is reported that the lamp is working well although the batteries are struggling to keep the light working especially during these very long dark evenings.

(8.2) SID – is in the village and working well. However, it is reported that it is approximately recording 3-4 miles below the correct speed. Clerk will follow his up. It was also agreed for the SID to face in the other direction when it comes back in February. Clerk will again liaise with Balfour Beatty.

(8.3) Resurfacing work has now been completed on the C1120. There was some discussion regarding the parking bay near to the entrance to St Andrews Close – the Chairman will inspect and report back to the next meeting.

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

(9.1) Planning Consultation - 183711 - Lower House Farm, Moreton-on-Lugg, Hereford, Herefordshire – discussion; no objection raised.

(9.2) Ordnance Close – it was reported that one plot had been sold prior to auction and 6 plots at auction.

## 10. PLAY PARK REPORT

(10.1) ROSPA inspection – all major items either replaced or repaired – excluding the aerial runway which is subject to a separate inspection scheme.

(10.2) Tree inspection – still waiting Owen Weatherall to visit – work is scheduled for the end of November.

(10.3) Maintenance has been carried out on a regular basis. It was agreed to remove the football nets during the winter months. It was also agreed that the Play Park Committee would undertake a weekly inspection of the trees in the park. However, it was generally accepted that they are not qualified tree surgeons – they will report back to the Parish Council anything which they consider to be a danger to the public and which needs a more expert opinion.

The problem of dog waste was reported as being on the increase. Ward Cllr Guthrie offered to look into the liabilities/legal situation regarding dog waste.

*Councillors were reminded: The **Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996** is an Act of the Parliament of the United Kingdom. The purpose of the Act was to create a criminal offence if a **dog** defecates at any time on designated land and a person who is in charge of the **dog** at that time fails to remove the faeces from the land forthwith.*

*What is the fine for not picking up dog waste?*

*The amount varies from council to council. It's often £50 and can be as much as £80. If you refuse to pay the fine, you can be taken to court and fined up to **£1,000**. Registered blind dog owners can't be fined*

This was discussed and it was agreed that this legal requirement of dog owners should be shared as widely as possible. The Clerk will place the notice on the

website and liaise with the Newsletter editor. The possibility of producing a leaflet to be distributed around the village was briefly discussed. It was agreed this item should be deferred until Cllr Guthrie has information available on the hazards of disease associated with dog waste.

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

Footpath Officer's report – read out in her absence:

(11.1) The owners of Brooklands had very large fir trees cut down and they are left on the bridle path, it's been 3 weeks so I went to visit them. They were very apologetic and explained they had paid to have them cut down and taken away but they haven't been back they have been trying very hard to get them moved and will do so asap. The rest of the footpaths are in good order.

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

(12.1) Payments since last meeting - £250 + £50 VAT to Balfour Beatty – invoice in lieu of the hire of SID for November.

(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 – Clerk to follow up

(12.4) Precept/Budget setting for 2019/20.

Further to the meeting held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> October when the precept/budget was discussed at length – a vote was taken and it was unanimously agreed that the Precept for 2019-20 should be increased by £1000 to £19,500. The Clerk will submit the request form before the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018.

This increase takes into account that there is no longer any funding towards the lengthsman or the P3 footpath scheme; there is an election next year and parishes are asked to allow funding in case an election is called within their Parish; and the Parish Council have decided, after a break of nearly three years, to again invest in hiring a Speed Indicator Device (SID) from Balfour Beatty at a cost of £250 + £50 VAT four times per year. This decision was taken in the interests of village safety with the intention of hopefully reducing the speed of cars travelling along the village road.

The precept/Budget figures will be displayed on the Notice Boards and website and eventually published in The Hereford Times together with other Town/Parish Councils precept/budget figures.

The Clerk –referred to recent information circulated by HALC – outlining - *The ‘no capping of Parish Council Precepts’ for 2019/20 – there are apparently no plans to extend council tax referendums to parish councils in 2019/20 in line with the three-deal announced in January. 2019/20 will be the second year of the ‘three-year deal’*

**13. LENGTHSMAN SCHEME** - liaise with regard to weed contractor.

**14. CORRESPONDENCE: none received**

**15. TO CONSIDER MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS FOR NEXT AGENDA –**

**16. DATE** of next meeting: Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2018 – 7.30 start

The chairman closed the meeting at 8.45 p.m.

Signed:

Date:

Cllr D Preece gave her apologies for the next meeting.

## **Herefordshire Councillor's Report**

### **Herefordshire remembers the centenary of the Armistice**

As we approach the centenary of the end of the First World War, there is a programme of events in November to commemorate the fallen and remember the Home Front.

In the week leading up to Remembrance Sunday, Hereford Cathedral will read all 3200 names of the county's war dead.

Remembrance Week 5 - 10 November (4.15pm daily) - Hereford Cathedral

Open to all - Reading the names of the fallen - Around 500 names will be read each day in a daily service led by county dignitaries and organisations, and family representatives of those who died, were injured or who served during the First World War.

The full list of the fallen will be printed in the Hereford Times and is available to view at [www.herefordshire.gov.uk/WW1](http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/WW1)

Remembrance Sunday, 11 November (3.30pm) - Hereford Cathedral

Open to all - a county service of remembrance for the end of the First World War. 3200 poppies marking each of the county's war dead will be dropped from the cathedral tower.

Herefordshire Council's museums and archives service will host a programme of events over the coming months to commemorate the impact of the Great War on the county's Home Front. Visit the Council's events page for more World War 1 centenary events across the county.

### **Warm Home Discount scheme open to low income households**

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

The Warm Home Discount scheme offers a £140 energy bill discount to low income households. Offered by energy suppliers, many schemes are now open and operate on a first come, first served basis, so Keep Herefordshire Warm is urging residents to act fast to ensure they don't miss out.

The discount is available to those on a low income, and in receipt of certain means-tested benefits. Many smaller suppliers are involved in the scheme this year for the first time. The Keep Herefordshire Warm team are keen to hear from households where particular health conditions call for extra heat at home, or where fixed low

incomes mean affording bills in the colder months can be a real struggle.

To find out about eligibility for this scheme please telephone Keep Herefordshire Warm for free on 0800 677 1432.

**Herefordshire Council is backing the launch of the new Public Health England 'Every Mind Matters' campaign**

This new "Every Mind Matters" campaign encourages people to take control of their own mental health. The free 'Every Mind Matters' online guide is available on the NHS website. It provides expert advice, information, practical tips and a personal action plan to help improve mental wellbeing when issues arise.

For more information visit Every Mind Matters Guide online.

More local and national support for mental health is available by visiting Herefordshire's WISH website: [www.wisherefordshire.org/mentalhealth](http://www.wisherefordshire.org/mentalhealth)

Report by Kema Guthrie 04/11/2018

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