

## MORETON ON LUGG PARISH COUNCIL

### **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting** held in Moreton-on-Lugg Village Hall on **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2019**

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

Parish Clerk – Lesley Hay

#### **PRESENT:**

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

Parish Clerk: Lesley Hay; Ward Cllr Guthrie. 5 Members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed those present to the June Meeting.

#### **MINUTES:**

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Cllr D Preece;

**2. UPDATE ON PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCIES** - To remain on 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** –

The Chairman welcomed PCSO Skye Jenkins to the meeting and invited her to give a report.

The PCSO confirmed there had been no further reports of unsociable behaviour as reported at the last meeting.

The PCSO Jenkins explained that there had been on-going problems with scrambler motorbike riders and, despite being cautioned, it was acknowledged that the problem continues. The police have spoken with the land owner who has agreed to put up signage.

There was a general discussion with regard to the recent incidents of dogs being attacked when crossing the footpath from Cuckoo's Corner. The incidents have been reported to the police and further enquiries are being followed up. It was acknowledged that on one occasion the walkers had veered off the official footpath on to private land. After discussion, it was agreed that the Parish Council would

erect a sign at the entrance saying 'dogs must be kept on leads' – this would be in addition to the present sign which says 'keep to the footpath'.

Clerk asked to liaise with D C Gardening.

It was also discussed and suggested that perhaps an official footpath map could be erected at the entrance to the orchard.

Clerk will liaise with Locality Steward.

In response to the Ward Councillor's query- the PCSO explained that the Police have no authority with regard to parking on pavements and have no power to ask residents to move.

## 5. WARD COUNCILLOR'S REPORT –

I'm delighted to have been appointed Vice Chairwoman of Herefordshire Council. The new administration of the Council is a coalition between of the Independent Group, It's our County and the Green Party. Cllr. David Hitchiner has been elected Leader of the Council and Cllr. Sebastian Bowen appointed as Chairman of the Council.

Interesting facts - only 24 out of 53 of the elected Councillors were on the previous Council and there are now 21 women Councillors.

### Highways Matters

I recently went on a drive around the Ward with our Locality Steward.

### St. Andrew's Close

- Inspected road for potholes.
- **Action:** Locality Steward advised that the road is currently defect free.

### Re: Reporting of Potholes

Please report potholes online as follows:

<https://myaccount.herefordshire.gov.uk/report-a-pothole> or by phoning 01432 261800.

### Moreton Bridge

- Re: Concern about HGV traffic on the bridge
- **Action:** I am going to arrange a site meeting with our Locality Steward to review matters accordingly.

## Parking in the village on Pavements

- Re: concerns raised about indiscriminate parking on village pavements & dropped kerbs.  
Locality Steward advised as follows: -
- Cars are causing an obstruction when they are parked on pavements with less than 1.2 metres (minimum distance – providing enough space for pushchairs & wheelchairs). This parking problem can be reported to the Police or the Council's Community Protection Team.
- Re: cars parked on drop kerb areas – white lining such as an H Bar can be implemented. An H Bar can be helpful in deterring obstructive parking but unfortunately it is non-enforceable and has to be paid for either by a resident who makes a request for an H bar or paid for by the Parish Council.

## Re: C1120 Moreton to Marden Road

The condition of this road remains a priority concern for Parish Councils and residents within the Ward area. Our Locality Steward regularly inspects the road and makes sure actionable defects are dealt with. I have asked where this road is ranked on the resurfacing programme and I am awaiting a response accordingly.

### 5.1 Open Session

There was discussion on the siting of four bird boxes which had been donated by Welcome to Our Future. It was agreed that these would be distributed around the village and erected in the autumn. In the meantime, the chairman will store the boxes and the clerk will write to Welcome to Our Future explaining the short delay in sending photographs.

### 5.2 The Chairman closed the Open Session

## 6. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – most items will be covered with the agenda.

The Chairman thanked Adrian for removing the red paint graffiti as reported at the last meeting. To date there has been no recurrence.

The Chairman reported he had received an email with regard to the closure of the level crossing and the conflicting times between a letter distributed around the village and the actual closure times on the Notice Boards on the approach roads to the crossing. Whilst it was agreed that this was unfortunate – it was really a matter to be taken up by the resident direct with Network Rail.

## **7. VILLAGE HALL REPORT**

### VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE.

Committee unchanged since last report.

### EVENTS

No events since last report, regular meetings continue.

Midsummer Madness Night (60's & 70's music + Evening Meal) planned for 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2019.

Summer Fair planned for July.

### HALL MAINTENANCE & DOCUMENTATION

Actions regarding Fire Precautions and the Health & Safety Policy review are ongoing.

Insulation beneath the passage windows will follow kitchen works.

Kitchen units are now installed in the Oak Room, expanded as planned. A few jobs are required to complete.

Grateful thanks to Pauline who cleaned the windows just last week.

### P.A. SYSTEM

The P A System was successfully demonstrated. Quotation submitted to Parish Council.

### FINANCIAL

The present bank balance shows a figure of £4031.77 with expected expenditure of £50.00 for Gas and electricity.

**8. MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** held on the 12<sup>th</sup> May 2019 were agreed to be a true record and it was unanimously voted that they be adopted and signed by the Chairman.

(8.1) There were no matters raised from the Minutes.

Youth Club update –

Cllr Garbett reported that he and the Chairman had again visited Marden Youth Club on an evening when it was in full swing with at least 20 youngsters enjoying the facilities. He explained that they do have both excellent inside and outside facilities which include tennis courts; football pitch; full size table tennis and pool tables.

It was noted that there were already a number of Moreton youngsters enjoying the various ongoing activities.

The Chairman and Cllr Garbett are making arrangements to re-visit Marden Youth Club again in the near future – hopefully, at a time when they will have an opportunity to talk with the instructors/volunteers. They both think it is well worth perusing the possibility of amalgamating with Marden. There was also a tentative suggestion that if this was the case – Moreton on Lugg Parish Council may be able to offer some financial support to the purchase of new equipment. It was acknowledged that this would have to be discussed further before any commitment could be made.

Item to remain on the agenda.

**9. Clerk's update:** all items covered under the agenda items.

#### **10. PLANNING – Re street lights for the Church House Farm development**

Further to an email from Bell Homes – it was agreed that there should be street lights erected on the new Church House Farm development. Clerk will liaise with the Bell Homes representative.

#### **11. PLAY PARK REPORT**

11.1 Play Park - Mr S. Browne reported that all the play park equipment is in serviceable order. There is still some wood waiting to be removed and there are several smaller loads available – cut to order. The brush cutter is proving to be an excellent addition to the maintenance equipment.

Mr Browne stressed that although things were all in good shape at the moment there is still a great deal of work/maintenance to be done during the next few months and any volunteers to help with this work would be much appreciated.

Mr Browne reported that the dog fouling remains an ongoing problem. However, in particular, Mr Browne explained that dogs are still being allowed into the children's fenced off play area and the dog waste is not being disposed of correctly. In the interests of health and safety, Mr Browne asked if he could erect two signs to be displayed on the fences of the children's play area – to say 'No Dogs'. It was unanimously agreed – Mr Browne will order and erect.

Mr Browne had recently suggested that it might encourage residents and users of the park to be more aware and careful if they had some idea of the value/costings involved with the purchase of the equipment. This was discussed briefly and unanimously agreed this was not a good idea.

Mr Browne was concerned with regard to bike riders digging and constructing ramps. Whilst it was acknowledged as a potential health and safety risk - it was agreed that there was little the Parish Councillors could do to stop/or police this activity. However, it was agreed that perhaps parents should be made aware of the risks associated with children riding bikes over unsafe structures and the liabilities involved.

The annual Play Quest park inspection has been completed without any major problems being identified. ROSPA are still to complete their inspection/report.

Mr Browne raised the question of the projected costs associated with replacing the play park equipment and wondered if the Parish Council have adequate cover under the current insurance policy. The play park equipment is currently recorded on the asset register as having a value of £29,775.00 – Mr Browne thought that was too low and the figure should be reassessed. The Clerk will contact Zurich for an up to date insurance figure associated with Play Park equipment and report back to next meeting. Item deferred.

Mr Browne's Annual Play Park Report had previously been circulated and now filed with the Annual Parish Meeting Minutes for adoption in May 2020.

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

(12.1) Footpath Officer's report - the footpaths are in good order.

(12.2) There was some concern expressed with regard to over growth and overhanging trees throughout the village in particular along the village road opposite the church. It was suggested a letter be sent to the resident - however, Cllr Jackson offered, in the first instance, to re-inspect the various areas and to report back to the clerk with any urgent issues.

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

To consider payment of accounts – the June schedule of payments had been circulated – it was unanimously agreed these should be paid and the Clerk raised the cheques accordingly and these were signed.

(13.1) The Clerk confirmed that the Monthouthshire Building Society interest statement has now been received – Cllr Jackson and the Clerk will look into reinvestment as a higher % rate of interest.

**14. LENGTHSMAN and P3 SCHEME** – no additional work identified for June other than the sign for the footpath at Cuckoo Corner.

**15. CORRESPONDENCE:** Traveller Sites – had been email circulated. Road Closures – emails circulated. Election results etc – circulated and displayed.

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

**17. DATE** of next meeting: Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2019 – 7.30p.m. start.

Apologies received from Cllr Barbara Jackson.

Chairman closed the meeting at 8.55 p.m.

Signed:

Date: