

MORETON ON LUGG PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in
Moreton-on-Lugg Village Hall

Tuesday 3rd December 2019

Moreton on Lugg Parish Council website: moretononlugg.org

Parish Clerk – Lesley Hay

PRESENT:

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

Parish Clerk: Lesley Hay; Ward Cllr Guthrie and 3 members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed those present to the December Meeting.

MINUTES:

1.APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – None

2. UPDATE ON PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCIES – one resident has shown interest – to be invited to attend the February meeting. Item to remain on the agenda.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND WRITTEN – APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATIONS by Parish Councillors – Cllr Javens declared a non-pecuniary interest with regard to Item 7 and signed the book.

4. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE LOCAL POLICE OFFICER – no representative present. However, the Chairman did bring to the attention of those present a recent scam which had unfortunately involved at least 4 local residents. Extra vigilance recommended when

answering telephone calls from alleged police/banks or any professional body.

5. WARD COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – Please see detailed report at the end of these minutes.

5.1 Open Session – matters raised by members of public.

Concerns with regard to the Garrison House, Ordnance Close planning application remain ongoing. Correspondence is circulated.

5.2 The Chairman closed the Open Session.

6. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – no issues that will not be covered within the agenda.

7. The farm land adjoining the houses at the bottom of the village.

Before discussion it was established that, at the last meeting, what had been referred to as a drain was in fact a ditch running at the back of approximately 19 properties off St Peters Close.

There was detailed and lengthy discussion with regard to the ownership of this ditch – and, after detailed investigation via the Locality Steward and the Land Registry, it was agreed that the ditch was most likely owned by Church House Farm.

As the ditch had failed to be maintained for many years, it was now becoming very overgrown and causing local residents concern with regard to the risk of flooding which would affect their properties.

It was agreed that a letter should be sent to Mr R Perkins highlighting residents' concerns associated with the ditch and asking if he could inspect it and maybe carry out most work to alleviate concerns. It was also suggested Mr Perkins be asked to inspect nearby trees which are overgrown and are also in need of some attention.

8. Communication – there was discussion on the importance of communication and openness amongst Councillors when dealing with issues that arise between meetings.

It was unanimously agreed that in order for the Parish Council to work together for the benefit of the village - in future, emails and telephone calls would be summarised and shared by all Councillors.

9. Dangerous Dogs – there have been several recent incidents concerning two dogs acting in a dangerous manner. The owner has been approached and it has been recommended that the dogs are muzzled when being walked in a public place – however, unfortunately the owner is failing to follow this recommendation. The public are encouraged to ring the police if they are subject to/or witness any incident relating to these two dogs.

10. MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on the 5th November 2019 were agreed to be a true record and it was unanimously voted that they be adopted and signed by the Chairman

11. Update on matters arising

(11.1) Cllr Garbett who had previously put forward a proposal for a parish leaflet – asked for the item to be deferred until the next meeting

13. VILLAGE HALL REPORT

Committee unchanged. Next meeting is 6th January 2020

EVENTS

The Christmas Fayre takes place on Saturday 7th December, Midday to 3pm. Posters are displayed locally and several new vendors have booked for tables alongside some of the regulars. Lunch will be available.

We are planning a Valentine's day event and an Easter Bingo, dates to be confirmed.

HALL MAINTENANCE & DOCUMENTATION

A Gas appliance service has been completed. Quotations are being sought to update and/or replace the heating system.

Fire alarm tests are to be implemented and logged.

PUBLICITY

The Facebook Site is developing: Mol Village Hall

Feedback from users and the public is encouraged through an E-mail address:

molvillagehall@yahoo.co

FINANCIAL

The financial report submitted separately by the Committee treasurer shows a balance of £5157.30 with a £450 expected expenditure.

13. TO RECEIVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT:

(13.1) To consider payment of accounts – the November schedule of payments had been circulated.

(13.2) It was unanimously agreed these invoices should to be paid and the Clerk raised the cheques accordingly and these were signed.

(13.3) Following the recent meeting of the Budget/Precept Working Party – it was unanimously agreed, by a show of hands, to accept their recommendation that the Precept for 2020-21 should increase by £500 from £19,500 to £20,000.

14. PLAY PARK REPORT

Play Park report for November 2019 - All equipment is serviceable.

15. FOOTPATH OFFICER /LENGTHSMAN / LOCLAITY STEWARD REPORTS

(15.1) Footpath Officer reported– all footpaths are wet but generally in good order.

An email had been received from Wellington Parish Council with regard to footpaths MU7 and MU8 which are adjacent to the Wellington Parish Boundary. Despite various letters have being sent to the land owner in the past – when the Footpaths Officer visited recently the paths remain impassable.

The Footpath Officer will liaise with Wellington Parish Clerk and together they will liaise with the Locality Steward with regard to taking further, maybe, legal action.

It was questioned - when the boundary changes are implemented, as per the Community Governance Review dated back in 2018, whether these footpaths would move to Wellington.

LOCALITY STEWARD – RECENT VILLAGE WALKABOUT

Drain is still blocked at the bottom of Moreton Road by the 5-bar gate. There has been an attempt to clear this drain but, unfortunately, the mud was so solid it will require a second visit by the Balfour Beatty work force who will need a crow bar to free this mud and so free the drain. Clerk to liaise with the Locality Steward.

The ditch at the back properties in St Peter's Close near the Electricity Station. See item 7

There was some discussion with regard to a long-established brick wall encroaching across the footpath and so obstructing access. However, it was agreed this was not a matter for the Parish Council and to refer it back to Balfour Beatty.

LENGTHSMAN

There was further discussion on the gullies and general debris accumulating in St Peter's Close. The Clerk confirmed that the lengthsman will be clearing this and the rest of the village next week – but, he may need to hire a skip at a cost of £250.00 + VAT. It was unanimously agreed that the Clerk could confirm that it was acceptable to go ahead if required.

To proceed with the tree work along the main village road as previously agreed.

(15.2) Lengthsman December/January worksheet – as above,

(15.3) Litter/dog waste bins – Clerk to enquire if Belle Homes will be installing litter/dog waste bins within the new development.

16. PLANNING –

CHURCH HOUSE DEVELOPMENT– please see update report from Belle Homes attached to these minutes.

17. CORRESPONDENCE – Several emails have been received from a local resident – all of which had been circulated. After discussion on all issues raised – it was agreed that the resident’s concerns be noted and recorded for future reference.

However, it was acknowledged that the resident was already aware that the 106 monies, associated with the development, will be used towards the improvements to the entrance to the village and associated speed restrictions.

It was also noted, that the proposed entrance to the Belle Homes Development has, in the past, been strongly opposed by the Ward Councillor, Parish Councillors and other residents but this opposition had been overruled by the Planning Authorities.

18. TO CONSIDER MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS FOR NEXT AGENDA –

19. DATE of next meeting: Tuesday 4th February 2020 – 7.30p.m. start.

Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50 p.m.

Signed:

Date:

Ward Councillor Guthrie's report – 3rd December 2019

Re: Highways Matters - New Machine to improve road network

The new dual-purpose machine is a gritter in Winter and a spray patcher to fill in potholes during the rest of the year.

The decision to invest was taken in part due to the success of spray patching works on c and u roads in Herefordshire earlier this year. A total of 17,629 potholes and road defects were repaired by spray patching machines during 2019. A single machine can repair up to 200 defects per day.

To report Road Problems visit, <https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/report-it> e.g. highway drainage issue, pavement needing repair, worn out road markings or anything other road problem. To report an urgent issue, please call Tel: 01432 261800 and calls are answered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Re: Concerns raised about Parking on dropped kerbing – I'm following this matter up and seeking the advice of the Council's Parking Enforcement Manager.

Re: Concerns raised about the Protection of Trees and large size of properties at Ordnance Close Development Site

The Planning Enforcement Officer has visited the site to implement changes to ensure the protection of all trees. The officer hasn't as yet made any further comments.

Keep Herefordshire Warm

Keep Herefordshire Warm (KHW) is a partnership between Herefordshire Council and Severn Wye Energy Agency. The KHW scheme aims to reduce fuel poverty and support vulnerable residents in heating their homes at an affordable cost.

A freephone advice line is available to all residents of Herefordshire and experts will be on hand to answer any energy query and provide information on the latest grants and assistance to improve the efficiency and warmth of people's homes.

To enquire about grants to help repair or replace your heating, check your eligibility for the Warm Homes Discount or for any other energy related advice, Herefordshire residents should contact: Keep Herefordshire Warm telephone: **0800 677 1432**

Christmas Recycling Collections

Normal Collection Day

Wednesday 25th December 2019

Thursday 26th December 2019

Wednesday 1st January 2020

Revised Collection Day

Saturday 28th December 2019

Sunday 29th December 2019

Saturday 4th January 2020

Free parking for Christmas events and late-night shopping

The council car parks in Hereford city centre on street pay & display and the Old Market car park will be free for shoppers after 4pm for late night Christmas shopping on **4th and 11th and 18th December**. There will be a range of shops open late including Maylord shopping centre, the Old Market, High Town and the surrounding area. These concessions do not apply to Friars Street car park or any private car parks in the city centre except the Old Market.

Search for seasonal events across the county at www.herefordshire.gov.uk/events

Ward Cllr Guthrie

Up Date report from Belle Homes – re Church House Development

Progress Report:

At present progress is extremely slow. This is mainly down to the fact that we cannot complete the new bell mouth entrance into the site and start the roadworks. This is for 3 main reasons:

- We are still waiting for Cadent to arrange a suitable time with Highways to come in and lower the existing gas main which crosses the entrance to our site,
- We are still waiting for WPD to arrange a suitable time with Highways to come in and ground the overhead cables that cross the site (these are also to be placed in the same place as where the current gas main is, across the front of the site),
- We are still waiting for Welsh Water to issue us with our S104 Approval so that we can go ahead and begin works on the foul and storm water drainage system.

These three factors are holding us up at present, with constructing the entrance into the site and the road inside the site. Until we have these three issues resolved, progress on site will be very slow and will just include a few site staff plodding along with building some of the first houses and bungalows across the frontage. We are hoping that by the end of January, we might be in a position where we can start really pushing on with development and get more contractors on site working.

M. Jelf – Belle Homes