

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

Tuesday 3rd March 2020

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 V Javens; Cllr D Preece.

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

The Chairman welcomed those present to the March Meeting.

MINUTES:

1.APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Cllr C Boden; Ward Cllr Guthrie

2. UPDATE ON PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCIES – No interest shown. Item to remain on the agenda.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND WRITTEN – APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATIONS by Parish Councillors – none declared.

4. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE LOCAL POLICE OFFICER – no representative present.

It was agreed to invite PC Smith to give a short presentation to the April according to her availability. Clerk to liaise.

5. WARD COUNCILLOR’S REPORT – The Chairman read out Ward Cllr Guthrie’s report in her absence. Please see detailed report at the end of these minutes.

5.1 Open Session – matters raised by members of public.

Letter re ditch behind St Peters Close properties

The Clerk confirmed that a letter had been 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. This letter had been acknowledged - Mr Perkins thanked the Parish Council for bringing this to his attention and promised to visit the site although any remedial work may have to be postponed due to the present very wet conditions.

5.2 The Chairman closed the Open Session.

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

The Chairman had been contacted with regard to recent reports involving stone throwing at windows and knocking on doors in St Peter's Close. The Police have been informed.

7. MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on the 4th February 2020 were agreed to be a true record and it was unanimously voted that they be adopted and signed by the Chairman

8. Update on matters arising

(8.1) Cllr Garbett asked for any further discussion on the leaflet to be deferred until May

(8.2) There was no further discussion regarding V.E. Day celebrations. Correspondence has been circulated. Deferred until the next meeting.

13. VILLAGE HALL REPORT

The committee remains one person short – we are seeking a further member.

Our next scheduled meeting is Tuesday 10th March.

EVENTS

The recent Race night was successful despite the weather. Bingo is planned for 4th April – back by popular request.

Further events including a Summer Fair to be advised.

A regular, term-time Playgroup commences 6th March.

HALL MAINTENANCE & DOCUMENTATION

Quotations are being obtained to replace the heating system. Bell Homes have promised a significant contribution.

Fire alarm tests are ongoing.

PUBLICITY

Events are being featured on our Facebook Site and on Community Update on Sunshine Radio, as well as the usual posters around the Village.

FINANCIAL

The financial report submitted separately by the Committee \ treasurer shows a balance of £5353.43 with a £108 expected expenditure.

The Clerk reported that she had recently received a letter from Lloyd and Cooper solicitors with regard to the lack of land registry regarding the Village Hall. Clerk to request a separate letter to be addressed to the Village Hall Committee.

13. TO RECEIVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT:

(13.1) To consider payment of accounts – the March 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) After discussion, it was agreed to increase the Clerk's salary point from Grade 25 to Grade 26 as from the 1st April 2020. It was acknowledged that as yet a revised salary scale for 2020-2021 had not yet been received. The Clerk also explained that there had been no indication, as yet, of any 'cost of living' increase for 2020 -21 - any information with regard to this usually comes via SLCC.

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.

(13.4) It was unanimously agreed to continue the SLCC membership and contribute towards the annual subscription annual.

14. PLAY PARK REPORT

Generally, the Play Park is very wet due to the recent unprecedented rain fall. All equipment is serviceable.

Once the wet conditions dry up – there will be considerable clearing up needed especially along the footpaths – volunteers will be most welcome to help with this task.

Mr Browne explained that he had received a second quote for replacing the hydraulic closing mechanism on both play area gates but that this had proved more expensive than the quote from Wicksteed for £1050.00 ex VAT. As agreed at the last meeting, Mr Brown went ahead and ordered the gates mechanism from Wicksteed and delivery/fitting has been promised before the end of the month.

The ROSPA Annual Inspection to be confirmed and a request for this to be carried out before the start of the summer holidays. Also, the Clerk was asked to request that up to date photographs are used in the report.

The Clerk to liaise with Play Quest with regard to their future inspection of the new swings and zip wire as these pieces of equipment are also included in the ROSPA inspection.

(14.1) Land Registry

The Clerk reported that she had recently received a letter from Lloyd and Cooper solicitors with regard to the lack of land registry associated with the triangular wooded area.

After discussion, the Clerk was asked to contact the solicitors and ascertain exactly what is registered with the Land Registry within the Play Park and will bring back information to the next meeting.

15. FOOTPATH OFFICER /LENGTHSMAN / LOCALITY STEWARD REPORTS

(15.1) Footpath Officer reported– all footpaths are very wet.

(15.2) LOCALITY STEWARD –

Clerk to liaise with Locality Steward with regard to the Post Office Green mowing programme for the coming 2020-21 season.

(15.3) SID

After discussion, it was agreed to continue with the SID programme for 2020-21. Clerk to fill in and submit documentation with Balfour Beatty.

(15.3) LENGTHSMAN

It was unanimously agreed to continue the D C Gardening contract for 2020-21 and the Clerk confirmed she had submitted the official documentation with Balfour Beatty.

The lengthsman / grass cutting costings for 2020-21 were accepted – it was noted that these were the same as previous years.

It was discussed and agreed not to increase the Play Park's fortnightly grass cutting programme to a weekly visit. However, this can be reviewed as required.

Lengthsman March worksheet – no additional work identified at present.

The weed killing programme to be discussed again at the April meeting.

16. PLANNING –

(13.1) 200238 – Brook House Farm - full details available on Herefordshire Planning website. – no objection raised

(13.2) CHURCH HOUSE DEVELOPMENT– update report from Belle Homes dated 29th February 2020:

The only thing I think there is to say here, that we know about, is that we have road space booked in with Herefordshire Council to complete the connection to the foul water manhole in the main Village Road between Monday 23rd March to Friday 27th March. We understand that WPD should have also finished their works by that date. This basically facilitates the entire site to be built now and allows us to start with the roads and drainage on the site, so I would expect the site to be looking a lot busier come April, as long as this rain stops!

(13.3) Core Strategy Settlement Hierarchy Review 2020 questionnaire - completed and will be submitted.

(13.4) The Clerk reported receiving an email from Beechcroft Land Ltd who wish to discuss the potential future residential development at Moreton-on-Lugg with Moreton-on-Lugg Parish Council. The proposal will sit adjacent to the site 'Land to the West of Church House Farm, Moreton on Lugg' which was granted planning permission on 16th July 2018 (ref. P172919/O).

After discussion, - it was agreed to extend an invitation to Guy Wakefield of Beechcroft Land Ltd to attend the next meeting on

Tuesday 7th April 2020 to give an initial presentation to the Parish Councillors.

It was acknowledged that as this is an open meeting - there will, of course, be residents/parishioners in the audience. However, on this occasion, the Q & A session will not be open to the floor but the Parish Council assume the developers will be arranging an 'open presentation' morning later in the year - to be held in the Village Hall - when parishioners/residents will be invited to view plans; ask questions and give their views.

17. CORRESPONDENCE –

Programme of Commemorative Events

Email on Flooding issues; Parish Summit Day; County Plan; VE and VJ Day commemoration and Coronavirus – public information.

County Plan 2020-2024

West Mercia PCC Road Safety Strategy

It was acknowledged that all the above correspondence had been circulated and after discussion, there was no further comment.

Parish Summit Day - 2nd April at the Shire Hall – it was noted that if available Cllr. Javens and/or Cllr. Styles would like to attend.

18. TO CONSIDER MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS FOR

NEXT AGENDA – VE and VJ anniversary day. Post Office Green; Land Registry; Weed Killing Programme

19. DATE of next meeting: - Tuesday 7th April 2020 – 7.00p.m. start.

It was agreed to an earlier start of 7.00p.m. to allow for the possibility of two presentations – Police and Planning.

Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50 p.m.

Ward Councillor's Update Report

Re: Extensive Flooding in Herefordshire

The council has set up a new **Community Relief Scheme**, which will offer up to £500 for eligible affected properties and up to £2,500 eligible affected businesses. Applications are now open and those who are entitled to make an application are being encourage to do so. **Council tax relief and Business rate relief** is available for properties affected by the recent floods.

Resilience Grant Properties and business can apply for up to £5,000 to help make them more resilient to future flooding. Herefordshire Council is currently finalising the details of this grant with Central Government – for further information please visit the Herefordshire Council website.

Help with removing flood damaged items Herefordshire Council are providing a free service to collect flood damaged household items from outside residents' houses. For more information or to apply, please visit the Herefordshire Council website.

Sutton Walls Ward Highways – currently there are three road closures in place as follows:

- 1) **Haywood Lane C1122**
- 2) **Moreton Road to Marden C1120**
- 3) **On Bend at Small Ashes on C1125**

Indeed, there are ongoing drainage problems at Old School House junction with C1120, on bend at Small Ashes on C1125 and on village road C1126 Sutton St. Nicholas – all these drainage problems I am following up with the Drainage Team accordingly.

Please view Herefordshire Council website for the latest updates www.herefordshire.gov.uk/dennis For further information call the Environment Agency's Floodline 0345 988 1188 for recorded flood warning information in your area or speak to an operator for advice 24 hours a day and follow @EnvAgency on twitter. To monitor flood warnings and alerts for your area or to sign up for flood warnings visit www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings

Re: Parking Problem on Village Road at junction near St. Peter's Close

fficer update key points as follows:

If the vehicles are parked on the footpath - we cannot take any enforcement action as unlike the police we do not have any powers to enforce pavement parking.

Rule 243 of the Highway Code states you must not park opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction, except in an authorised parking space. This is not an offence the councils parking enforcement officers can enforce, if there is a problem the police could consider issuing a fixed penalty for causing an unnecessary obstruction as they could if a vehicle was parked on the footpath and causing an obstruction.

If the vehicle is parked on the carriageway rather than the pavement and adjacent to a dropped kerb which prevents anyone from using the dropped kerb we can enforce.

If the vehicle(s) does park on the carriageway adjacent to a dropped kerb which prevents anyone from using it they can contact the parking services section (01432 260974) and if an officer is available, they will attend.

Re: Update of Traffic Monitoring Strips

Awaiting Officer response - regarding traffic monitoring strips on the village road and on the A49.

Report by Kema Guthrie 01/03/2020

Signed :

Date: