

# **MORETON ON LUGG PARISH COUNCIL**

## **Minutes of the Moreton-on-Lugg Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 3<sup>RD</sup> November 2020 at 7.00 p.m.**

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

*Due to present Government restrictions this meeting was a  
a 'virtual' meeting held via Zoom.*

### **PRESENT:**

Councillors: Cllr V Javens (Chairman). Cllr B Jackson (Vice Chairman);  
Cllr C Cowley; Cllr C. Sharp; Cllr C Colman; Cllr J Lloyd; Cllr K Cooper;

Parish Clerk: Lesley Hay; Ward Cllr K Guthrie.

### **MINUTES:**

1. **To receive apologies for absence.** Cllr R Styles; Cllr C Boden.
2. **To receive declarations of interest** or written requests for dispensations. Declarations of interest were received from Cllr. Kim Cooper with regard to the village hall and from Cllr Chris Sharp with regard to Planning Application 193779
3. **Six-month attendance legislation** – this item had been deferred from the last meeting. Unfortunately, Cllr Boden has not been able to attend a Parish Council meeting for over 10 months and has, therefore, technically disqualified himself as a Parish Councillor. The Chairman asked Councillors to give some thought to the next course of action and it was agreed to again defer until the next meeting.
4. **The minutes of the Parish Council** meeting held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2020 were agreed as a true record and it was unanimously agreed that they be adopted and signed by the Chairman.
  - 4.1 Update on PCSO Sarah Smith visit re speeding – the Clerk explained that in response to an email PCSO Smith had explained that her role had now changed. However, an email had been received from the local PCSO and the Clerk will invite her to attend the next Parish Council meeting in December.

#### 4.2 Update on letter re ditch and tree – St Peters Close

The Clerk confirmed receipt of an email from Mr Richard Perkins outlining the work done to improve the ditch/trees along the back of 50 St Peter's Close and associated neighbouring houses.

However, Mr Perkins has observed that some are residents of throwing their garden rubbish into the ditch which is contributing to preventing a free flow of water. Also, some residents are building out into the ditch.

It was decided Cllr Javens and Cllr Cooper would meet and walk the ditch in order to ascertain who may be responsible and it was agreed a letter would then be sent explaining the problem. A copy of this letter will be sent to Mr Perkins.

#### 5. **Ward Councillor's Report** – please see full report at the end of these minutes.

5.1 Ward Cllr Guthrie explained that she had received an acknowledgement of her email with regard to the lowering of water levels/ gravel extraction (which had been circulated) and she is waiting for a further follow up response. Once available, Ward Cllr Guthrie will respond to the two residents who originally drew attention to this evolving problem.

#### Re: A49 Trunk Road – Meeting with Highways England

Cllr Guthrie explained that she will be attending a Zoom Meeting on the A49 Northern Route Members Briefing with new Area 9 Manager scheduled for 13<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

Discussion followed and various ideas and requests were put forward for inclusion in that meeting. The main being the speed limit from Moreton Business Centre to the other side of the Moreton Village Turning. It was felt that this would greatly benefit from being reduced from 60mph to 50mph and even 40mph.

The volume of traffic coming out on the A49 along this stretch of road has drastically increased in recent years and with the new housing developments in Moreton this volume is set to increase even more.

It was acknowledged that these suggestions had been discussed in the past and, at that time, had been refused – however, there had been several fatalities; accidents and near misses plus the increased volume of emerging traffic since that time – and these issues may now help to strengthen a new request.

5.2 Open Session – no members of the public present.

5.3 The Chairman closed the Open session

6. **Chairman’s report** – most items contained within the agenda but thanks to everyone who liaised with regard to 50 St Peters Close – an excellent team effort.

## 7. **Highways and Environmental Matters:**

7.1 Update Pavement No 50 St Peters Close – this problem has now been addressed and Mr and Mrs Ford are delighted with the outcome.

D C Gardening has been thanked for his work and for reducing his original quote.

Cllr Javens noted that she had seen work being done to the tree in close proximity of 50 St Peters Close.

The tree in front of 20 St Peter’s Close has a lot of low-down branches which may cause an accident especially in the dark. Cllr Javens will inspect – it maybe a job for the lengthsman - but await further information before approaching D C Gardening.

## 8. **Finance: Accounts sheet/schedule of payment sheet circulated.**

8.1 Bank Balances – circulated

8.2 To was agreed to pay of outstanding invoices.

8.3 There had been a Working Party meeting to discuss and agree precept/budget 2021-2022. The new figures for the budget had been circulated. These draft proposals/figures had been circulated prior to the meeting.

**To consider and approve Budget for 2021-2022**

Cllr Javens proposed; Cllr Jackson seconded and it was unanimously agreed to approve the budget for 2021-2020.

**To consider and approve the Precept for the forthcoming financial year.**

Cllr Javens proposed and Cllr Jackson seconded and it was unanimously agreed to request an increase in the Precept from £20,000 to £20,500.00 for the financial year 2021-2022.

The Clerk will submit an application form to Herefordshire Council before the 31st December, 2020.

Cllr Cooper will again attempt to find out how many D band properties there are in Moreton-on-Lugg.

**9. Play Park Report**

(9.1) During the recent Budget/Precept meeting it was unanimously agreed that the allocation towards the Play Park annual maintenance allowance should remain at £1000.

There is a separate tree budget set aside for any tree maintenance work that becomes necessary during the 2021-2020 financial year.

Cllr Javens will inform Steve Browne of this decision.

Cllr Javens reported that she had had an opportunity to walk the Play Park with Steve Brown during which he had explained/pointed out various items that will need attention in the foreseeable future.

A list of these items is attached at the end of these minutes.

**10. Highways/Lengthsman/Drainage**

The drainage grant works will commence now that D C Gardening has completed his grass cutting schedule.

**11. Planning matters**

11.1 Update-Planning Consultation: 201752 Land adjacent to A49 Outline application to erect up to 43 dwellings.

Ward Cllr Guthrie explained that there is no further information with regard to this development – however, although not officially confirmed, it will go to Committee for a final decision. The Case Officer had asked for further comments prior to 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

12. **Standing Orders** – The Clerk explained that the present Standing Orders - Rules of Engagement - annually adopted by the Parish Council do not include any reference to holding virtual meetings – she will draft an amendment and will circulate for adoption at the next meeting.
13. **Footpath Officer Report** – all in good order.
14. **Village Hall** – Cllr Cooper reported that the Village Hall Committee continue to meet via Zoom. The Committee are presently getting quotes for replacing the central heating system. The Hall will remain closed but they will be decorating windows etc for the Christmas period.

It was noted that the Fish and Chip Shop is due to re-open – it had been hoped during November – but this may now depend on the Covid19 guidelines.

Date of next Parish Council meeting - Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020.

Chairman closed the meeting at 8.30p.m.

Signed

Date:

## **PLAY PARK – Report November 2020**

1. ROSPA to complete 2020 inspection i.e swings and goals.
2. Are we still tied in with Playquest? If so an inspection is due Nov/Jan.
3. Does the council require the paths to be chipped? If so the cost will be over £100 as the chippings will have to be bought in.
4. The basketball court surround needs to be repaired professionally, trip hazard, as per ROSPA report.
5. Several small trees, growing through the perimeter fence need to be removed as a matter of urgency as they are damaging posts and wire. Permission will need to be gained from owners of land on opposite side as the trees will fall on their land.
6. Large (dead) chestnut to be felled, hopefully sold as firewood.
7. Overhanging branches to be removed from football pitch area.
8. Moss clearance from basketball area, (labour intensive) Spring 2021
9. Removal of waste (branches) to be burnt in situ.

Items 5-6-7-8-9 in house

### **Ward Councillor's Report**

#### **Coronavirus weekly Chief Executive updates**

Yesterday, I circulated the Chief Executive's weekly update and attached included a letter to residents, Social media messaging document and information on local Herefordshire date on Coronavirus.

Please note that I received this information before the Government announcement regarding the forthcoming Lockdown... Therefore, for the most up to date guidance please go to the Herefordshire Council and NHS website for more details:

**Local information on services and**

**advice** [www.Herefordshire.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.Herefordshire.gov.uk/coronavirus)

**National information** [www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19)

[www.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

## **HIGHWAYS MATTERS**

The Council's General Scrutiny Committee will be considering the Hereford Transport Review on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020 – information on the meeting and the agenda can be viewed on the Council's website:  
<http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=809&MId=7972&Ver=4>

### **Re: A49 Trunk Road – Meeting with Highways England**

I will be attending a Zoom Meeting on the A49 Northern Route - Members Briefing with new Area 9 Manager which is scheduled on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2020. Please relay concerns regarding the A49 trunk to me before the date of the meeting. I have already raised concerns regarding the speed of traffic and the capacity of the village junction onto the A49 especially at peak times.

### **Ref: Village roads and footpaths**

Regarding any highways or footpaths concerns please report any problems using the link below:

<https://myaccount.herefordshire.gov.uk/report-a-pothole> or by phoning [01432 261800](tel:01432261800).

## **KEEP HEREFORDSHIRE WARM**

Reminder – with the onset of Winter and the weather becoming colder – Keep Herefordshire Warm is a service which provides advice on domestic heating.

The Freephone number is 0800 677 1432 and the advice line is open from Monday to Friday, 9.00 to 17.00.

There is also a dedicated webpage <https://keepherefordshirewarm.co.uk/grants-and-funding/>

Update on Redirection Request - Request to Redirect Application to Planning Committee - Ref 193779

Officer response – key points below:

*“On this occasion the decision was that the application shall not be referred to Planning Committee, as considered against the three criteria set out in the Constitution.*

*In relation to the first criterion, I did not consider that the application raised any exceptionally unusual or sensitive planning issues.*

*The second criterion was whether the application had attracted an unusually high level of public interest in the relevant area. This was not considered to be significant for the purposes of the constitution, as there had only been four letters of objection from two householders.*

*The third criterion was whether there had been a recent and significant change in planning policy that would result in a different recommendation. I am of the opinion that this did not apply in this case.*

*I have therefore asked the case officer, Ollie Jones, to determine this application under delegated powers”*

Report by Kema Guthrie 03/11/2020