

21st March 2019

HOPE UNDER DINMORE GROUP PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on
Thursday 21st March 2019 at 7.00pm in
Hope under Dinmore Village Hall

MINUTES

Present:

Parish Councillors: Cllr Leslie Legge (Chairman); Cllr John Stone; Cllr J Pritchard; Cllr N Giles; Cllr A. Morgan (Vice Chairman); Cllr. Mrs K Clarkson; Cllr Paul Stephens; Cllr. N Ramsay;

In attendance: Parish Clerk: Mrs L Hay; Ward Cllr Pauline Crockett;

Two members of the public were present.

1. To Receive Apologies for Absence: Cllr. K. Rocke

2. To Receive Declarations of Interest and Applications for Dispensations: Cllr Clarkson; Cllr Ramsay and Cllr Stone signed on behalf of the village hall.

3. Report from local Police Officer – The Chairman welcomed PCSO Sue Berrett and PCSO Jack Davies to the meeting. There was a general discussion on the crime prevention/security.

The Clerk explained that she had received a recent email with regard to – Crime Prevention Advice. This had been discussed at the last meeting when it was agreed not to take up the offer of a Crime Prevention Presentation based on previous attendance figures at similar events being so low.

PCSO Berrett explained that Rural Watch had been discontinued due to the new Data Protection Laws but that there is a website called Community Messaging Services. PCSO Berrett is to send out a final Rural Watch document outlining how to find and use this site.

4. Community Governance review – An update from John Coleman -

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Democratic Services Manager and Statutory Scrutiny Officer

No further update at present but there are no problems expected to be associated with Hope under Dinmore's proposed changes.

5. Ward Councillor Pauline Crockett –

The Hereford Transport Package consultation finished on Monday 11th March, I appreciate this did not affect you directly, but it will affect you when visiting Hereford City, I hope you have had your say! The decision relating to this project has been called in to Council to be debated further.

Full Council met in February and March, the 2019/2020 Budget was discussed and agreed with a provision of looking for a 4.9% Council Tax rise 2% of which would be allocated to increasing adult social care costs, this was agreed at the last meeting.

Local issues:

Addressing planning permissions as submitted, officers are now catching up with backlog due to staff changes

6. The Chairman opened the Open Session and invited those present to raise any local issues which they wished discussed.

6.1 Additional grit bin near Trunk Cottage has been delivered and is in place.

6.2 It has been rumoured that the super-fast broadband will be available by the end of the year.

Reference was made again to recent work being undertaken by Network rail. It is reported that there have again been vehicles parked in the passing bay making is difficult for vehicles to pass on the narrow road.

With no further questions the Chairman Closed the Open Session.

7. Minutes of last meeting: It was agreed that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 24th January 2019 were a true record and it was unanimously voted they be adopted and signed by the Chairman.

Clerk's update

7.1 HALC Information corner has been circulated.

7.2 After some discussion it was unanimously agreed by all Councillors present that Hope under Dinmore and Newton Parish Council would not renew their annual subscription with HALC for this coming year.

8. Reports and update on:

8.1 Cherry Brook – no representative present.

8.2 News from Newton – the broken grit bin in Newton Lane by the post box has been replaced. The Gullies have been cleared and the water is now running correctly. There is still a health and safety risk associated with a protruding manhole cover – this has already been discussed with the Locality Steward but no action taken to date. Clerk to liaise.

8.3 The unacceptable condition of the Queenswood access road remains ongoing. Although various paths within the woods have been reinstated – the access road itself remains mud rutted and totally unacceptable for those residents driving/walking to their properties.

9. Finance Matters:

9.1 Outstanding Invoices - schedule of payments had been circulated and it was agreed that the outstanding invoices should be paid and cheques were raised and signed.

After discussion, it was agreed to increase the Clerk's salary point from Grade 24 to Grade 25 as from the 1st April 2019. The Clerk explained that there had been no indication, as yet, of any 'cost of living' increase for 2019 -20 – any information with regard to this usually comes via HALC/SLCC.

After discussion, it was unanimously agreed between the Clerk and Councillors that her hours would remain at 6 hours per week – but

that any increase would be discussed at the budget/precept setting meeting in November.

10. To Receive Reports:

10.1 Village Hall Committee - Councillor J Stone reported a bank balance of £1756 with outstanding invoices still to be paid. Hall bookings are increasing which is very encouraging. Cllr Clarkson report that she had now taken over as Treasurer of the Village Hall and so would continue to be responsible for the hall bookings but would now be in a position to keep track on the sending out invoices; banking etc.

10.2 Village Footpaths – Footpaths Officer Cllr N. Giles

Generally, the footpaths are in good order for the time of the year. There was some general discussion on making easier access along the HD6 by replacing a stile with kissing gate and the removal of a stile further up the path – Cllr J Stone will liaise with the landowner and will report back to the Clerk.

It is planned to replace the stile on the HD3 with a kissing gate and this work will be completed in this financial year.

11. Highway Matters:

11.1 Lengthsman work schedule for March / April – nothing at the moment.

11.2 The street light on the corner by the Village Hall car park is on 24 hours per day – Clerk to report to Locality Steward.

12. Planning: Planning consultations since last meeting –

12.1 **Planning:** 190659 Church Hill – Mr and Mrs Bowen – circulated.

The Chairman confirmed he had spoken with Mr Bowen and that the planned new build will be three storeys but that it will be positioned right back into the side of the hill. The design appeared similar to that of the proposed build opposite Cherrybrook. It was felt that,

apart from the design being totally out of keeping with the general rural area – there were no objections.

12.2 Update on Planning application: 183231- Land described as off Cherrybrook– no further up date.

12.3 Planning – 190804 – Land at Marlbrook – circulated.

This application was discussed and observations were made in that this area seemed to be developing into a small industrial site –in spite of there being empty units available on the Industrial Site on the outskirts of Leominster. Apart from these observations – there were no objections.

13. Correspondence: - none not already covered in the minutes.

13.1 Code of Conduct –HALC had recently circulated information with regarding proposed to changes to the Code of Conduct. The Clerk reminded Councillors that Herefordshire Council had in June 2018 revised their Code of Conduct and it was agreed that any decision with regard to changing Hope under Dinmore and Newton’s Parish Council’s Code of Conduct will be deferred until further information is available and any revised Code will be discussed; agreed and adopted at the May Annual Parish Council Meeting.

13.2 Election day - 2nd May 2019. The Clerk confirmed she had attended a meeting in the Town Hall on Wednesday 6th March when nomination papers were made available.

The Clerk distributed these papers with a short ‘crib sheet’. The Clerk explained the importance of completing these papers which have to be completed by Councillors and returned in person (or by a person of trust) to the Town Hall before 4.00p.m. on the Wednesday 3rd April, 2019.

The Clerk confirmed she has an up to date Electoral Roll for each parish – and can make electoral roll numbers available for proposers and seconders as required.

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The Clerk asked those present to confirm they were willing to stand as a Parish Councillor for the forth coming election. Unfortunately, Cllr K. Rocke was unable to attend the meeting – the clerk will therefore, contact Cllr Rocke to ask her to confirm if she is willing to stand again for re-election at these forthcoming elections – if so, she will forward the nomination papers.

14. Date of the Next Parish Council Meeting – on Thursday 16th May 2019 with a 7.00p.m. start – this will be the Annual Parish Meeting – followed by the Annual Parish Council Meeting.

Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45 p.m.

Signed:

Date: