

23rd January 2020

HOPE UNDER DINMORE GROUP PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on
Thursday 23rd January 2020 at 7.00pm in
Hope under Dinmore Village Hall

MINUTES

Present:

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

In attendance: Parish Clerk: Mrs L Hay;

No members of the public were present.

1. **To Receive Apologies for Absence:** Ward Cllr P Crockett
2. **To Receive Declarations of Interest** and Applications for Dispensations: Cllrs Clarkson; Ramsay and Stone signed on behalf of the Village Hall.
3. **Report from local Police Officer** – no representative present.

However, the Clerk explained that she had recently met PC Smith and her colleague, PC Peter Knight, both of whom had recently been appointed as Rural Crime and Business Officers within the West Mercia Police.

This new role covers all aspects of rural crime but, in particular, encompasses 'We Don't Buy Crime' and the 'Smart Water' campaign. It also includes poaching; theft and local speed awareness.

It was agreed to invite PC Smith to give a short presentation at the next meeting in March.

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4. Community Governance review – no further update at present.

5. Ward Councillor Pauline Crockett.

(5.1) Update on Petition A49 – A417 junction

Ward Cllr Crockett is still in conversation about the safety of the A417 junction with the A49 and a meeting will be arranged in the near future with Infrastructure colleagues and the local MP to form a plan.

(5.2) Update on Queenswood Parking ticket issue – no update available.

January Ward Member Report- please see detailed report attached to the end of these minutes.

The Chairman opened the Open Session –

No issues raised.

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 21st November 2019 were a true record and it was unanimously voted they be adopted and signed by the Chairman.

8. News from:

8.1 Cherry Brook – no representative present. There is a great deal of debris left on the road from the recent flooding. Clerk to raise issue with Locality Steward.

8.2 Newton all quiet at the moment. However, the road is in a pretty poor state of repair; ditches are silted up causing considerable surface water particularly by the letter box – which, in freezing conditions, makes the road very dangerous with black ice.

Clerk to liaise with the Locality Steward.

9. Finance Matters:

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

10. To Receive Reports:

10.1 Village Hall Committee

Councillor J Stone reported that bookings remain stable. There is £5,400 in the current account with no outstanding invoices to be paid. The village hall committee are now considering plans for 2020 which include finalising the repair to the roof.

The cleaning bill for the village hall had increased recently due to the retirement of the resident cleaner which had necessitated the employment of a cleaning agency.

Cllr Stone reported that there is a vacancy for a Treasurer on the Village Hall Committee plus new committee members are always welcome.

10.2 Village Footpaths – Footpaths Officer Cllr N. Giles reported that the footpaths are very wet but generally in good order for the time of the year.

The possibility of replacing a stile by the railway line/bridge (footpath HD2- HD4 junction) with self-closing gates/kissing gates was again discussed and it was agreed that the Clerk would arrange a meeting between the Chairman and the Lengthsman to discuss on site.

However, it was acknowledged that the owners of the land would need to be approached before any changes could be made.

11. Highway Matters:

There are a considerable amount of bottles and cans in the lay by the railway line and further up the hill. Clerk will liaise with Locality Steward.

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There is a collection of silt forming a bump in the road at the end of the main village ditch by the speed indicator – almost sleeping police size.

On the A49 just before the Bodenham junction there is a massive pot hole on the left-hand side.

All present were encouraged to report these issues direct on line. Clerk to liaise with Locality Steward.

The village hedge was discussed and it was decided it would not need trimming this year – however, would need to be assessed again next year.

12. Planning: Planning applications since last meeting.

Planning application: 194229 Bathfield, Hope under Dinmore.
Erection of replacement dwelling.

Planning application 192788 Broomwell Farm – Amended and additional application – proposed general purpose storage building for fodder and machinery.

Planning application: 193983 Woodmanton – Erection of balcony

Update on outstanding planning application:

12.2 Planning application: 183231- Land described as off Cherrybrook– no further update available.

Following discussion on all the above planning applications – the Parish Council agreed - no comment. Clerk to inform Planning Officers accordingly.

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Neighbourhood Development Plan

Parish Councillors and the Steering Group have been kept up to date with recent correspondence with regard to their Neighbourhood Development Plan. There was a brief discussion on concerns with regard to the Hope under Dinmore Neighbourhood Plan being considered outside a two-year bracket and therefore being considered to be out of date.

Item to be deferred until further information becomes available.

13. Correspondence:

It was acknowledged that all correspondence had been circulated and content noted.

14 Items for next agenda – not for discussion – none raised.

15. Date of the Next Parish Council Meeting – on Thursday 26th March 2020 with a 7.00p.m. start.

Chairman closed the meeting at 8.00 p.m.

Signed:

Date:

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Ward Councillor P Crockett report for January 2020

My best wishes to you at the beginning of a New Year and decade.

In December, we held interviews for the appointment of a Director of Economy and Place and in January we interviewed for an Assistant Director for Operations in Adult Social Care. We had more applicants than we had expected, and Richard Ball was appointed for EP and Mandy Appleby for SC. Richard brings more than 20 years of experience in Herefordshire Council, during which he has led the delivery of the wide range of place-based services. Mandy also brings a wealth of experience in her field.

Once again, the council provided a team effort to support the General Election in Herefordshire. The total number of votes received was 101,139. Verified voter turnout for Hereford and South Herefordshire was 69.2% and North Herefordshire was 70%. This is a high turnout and encouraging.

The Marches Local Enterprise Partnership Board (LEP) and NMiTE

The LEP Board approved a further £5.66 million of funding to NMiTE to build a Centre for Timber Technology, Centre for Automated Manufacturing and a Centre for Future Skills on the Hereford Enterprise Zone. The complication is that the LEP require NMiTE to provide an indemnity. We are continuing to look, with officers and the Cabinet, at how the Council might be able to help NMiTE. Once a position has been reached where a recommendation can be made, this will go to the General Scrutiny committee for scrutiny before going to the Cabinet.

The Marches LEP also launched a call for new project applications in November. The Growth Deal funds are only currently available until the end of March 2021. The council submitted a range of Expressions of Interest by the LEP's deadline of the 6 December, including a package of further support to develop the Hereford Enterprise Zone, the development of the Ross Enterprise Park, a phosphate reduction plan, a grant programme for businesses, and a Hereford city centre improvements package. The outcome of the call for projects will be considered by the LEP Board at the end of January.

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Health and adult wellbeing – My Portfolio - The Manor Rest Home. Due to extensive flood damage, The Manor Rest Home has been unsuccessful in securing appropriate insurance cover for the home and have sadly taken the decision to close permanently. Clients are being monitored closely during this time and needs are being reviewed.

Dementia Strategy

The 2019-2024 Dementia Strategy sets out a shared vision for a collaborative approach across both Herefordshire and Worcestershire. It will build upon the successes of our local dementia partnerships delivered by a wide range of local stakeholders who are key to supporting people living with dementia, their family, friends and communities.

(The scale of the challenge is significant with an estimated 12,456 people currently living with dementia in Herefordshire and Worcestershire, including more than 592 people with young onset dementia. We must respond to the growing number of people who are developing dementia later in life, whilst still needing to work and many of whom often have another significant chronic condition.)

Talk Community - A number of new Talk Community Hubs will launch formally in January and February 2020. The Talk Community Hubs project team is working with a wide range of community groups to help them establish a Hub, with an aim of 20 to be operating in 2020. A new grant scheme has been approved and will be launched in January to enable seed funding for hubs, with grants of up to £2.5k to support the launch or initial operation of hubs in local communities.

Community Commissioning Procurement of the Integrated Community Equipment Service (ICES) was concluded in December and a contract will be awarded shortly for the service to be re-launched in April 2020.

Mental Health Day was January 20th 2020

I was very much in support of promoting an annual mental health day in Herefordshire Council this was on the third Monday of January, to be known as 'Let's Listen Herefordshire'. On 20th January 2020 the council supported the national Mental Health Research UK Campaign, which coincided with Blue Monday.

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This year's theme is 'Blooming Monday'. On that date staff and members were encouraged to wear something bright to raise awareness of mental health issues. During January, Mind will also be visiting the council to promote staff mental health and wellbeing and recruit staff to train as Mental Health First Aiders. Based on the evaluation of Blooming Monday consideration will be given to supporting this as an annual event. This is just one of many National mental health days supported by the council throughout the year.

Locally:

1. I am still in conversation about the safety of the A417 junction with the A49, a meeting will be arranged in the near future with Infrastructure colleagues and the local MP to form a plan.
2. I enquired about the question of 'fancy railings' in an adjoining ward (raised by PC) last meeting. I was advised that the Ward Member was not consulted on this matter and that the decision was taken by Highways England (HE).
3. I am awaiting a reply from HE re the growing amount of advertising on the Cadburys roundabout, another issue raised at the PC's last meeting
4. I am in regular contact with HC planning dept regarding ongoing planning applications.