

WALFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council
Held at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 12th October in Walford Village Hall

Present: Cllr Frank Myers - Chairman.

Dave Berry, Cheryl Carpenter, Sandra Cole, Simeon Cole, John Daniels, Eric Drummond, Heather Evans, Terry Snow.

In attendance: Clerk – Catherine Murray and several members of the Public.

1. **To accept apologies for absence:** Ward Councillor John Jarvis, Luke Freeman, Philip Heath, George Jones, Marc Thomas.
2. **To receive declarations of personal/prejudicial interest:** Eric Drummond: Lower Cleeve Farm, Old Hill Farm. Dave Berry: Mill Race, Simeon & Sandra Cole: Thorny Orchard.
3. **Open Session – reports:**
 - 3.1 **To receive a verbal report from West Mercia Police:** The Police representative was not present and there was no report to read out.
 - 3.2 **To receive a verbal report from Ward Councillor Jarvis:** Cllr Jarvis was not present. The Chairman read out a written report, which is available from the Clerk.
 - 3.2.1 It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to appoint Dave Berry as the Ward Broadband Champion.
 - 3.2.2 It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to appoint Cheryl Carpenter to assist Cllr Jarvis, Paul Baker and Herefordshire Council with implementation of the Village Warden scheme.
4. **To adopt minutes of the previous Parish Council meetings – 14/09/11.** Two Cllrs present at the previous meeting, objected to the inclusion of item 10 and wanted it removed from the record. A vote was taken and it was **RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes as a true and accurate record, by a majority of votes with all of the other Cllrs who had been present at the previous meeting voting in favour.
5. **Planning:** See Planning Appendix B.
 - 5.1 **To consider and comment upon the following Planning Applications:**
 - 5.1.1 DMS/112393/E – Coughton Place, HR9 5RX. No objections.
 - 5.1.2 DMS/112296/F – Lower Cleeve Farm, HR9 7TD. No objections.
 - 5.1.3 DMS/111970/F – The Mill Race Pub, HR9 5QS. No objections, provided the staff accommodation remains tied to the pub.
 - 5.1.4 DMS/112339/F – Old Hill Farm House, HR9 7TQ. Proposed 3 additional buildings for storage of grain. No objections.
 - 5.1.5 DMS/112532/F – Homme Farm, HR9 7TF. No objections.
 - 5.2 **To note any Planning consents given.**
 - 5.2.1 DMS/111199/FH. The Oxlet Bishopswood. Permission granted following appeal.
 - 5.3 To note any planning refusals: None received.
 - 5.4 To note any Planning enforcement notices. None received.
 - 5.5 To note any withdrawn Planning applications. None received.
6. **Finance: See Appendix A – Finance Statement.** The Finance statement was noted.
 - 6.1 **Councillors Expenses on Parish projects:** It was **RESOLVED** that this matter should go on the Finance Committee Agenda for 9th November. There are funds set aside, but the specific amount to be allocated for each project has to be agreed in council. <<**Action Clerk and Finance committee**>>
 - 6.2 **Councillor Training:** It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that each Cllr can go up to one thirteenth of the total budget allowed for training and before they commit to training which will exceed this allowance, the amount should be put to the council for consideration and agreement.<<**Action Cllrs & Council**>> The Clerk is to advise Cllr Snow of the training available via HALC. <<**Action Clerk**>>
 - 6.3 **Payment of invoices:** It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve all payments listed: 6.3.1– 6.3.5.
7. **Roads:**
 - 7.1 **To discuss any items relating to roads, including those to be brought to the attention of Amey:** The Kerne Bridge red road junction was mentioned, a reply is due from Highways to the letter sent by WPC. The Clerk was asked to chase the response. <<**Action Clerk**>> 14 additional bollards have appeared on Howle Hill, the Clerk was asked to write to Amey to ask why there are so many bollards, as only 6 are mentioned on Amey's report from the Parish walk. <<**Action Clerk**>>
 - 7.2 **Amey Winter Community Self Help Scheme:** It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to join the scheme. The Clerk is to complete the form with help from Cllr Cole for submission to Amey. <<**Action Clerk & Cllr Cole**>> A Cllr pointed out that partial skimming of snow on the top roads can make the surface very icy. This item should go on the next Agenda for discussion. <<**Action Clerk**>>

8. Lengthsman:

8.1 Report: The Lengthsman co-ordinator was not present, so there was no report.

8.2 Issues for Lengthsman: A Cllr asked when the weed control was going to be done on the road to Coughton corner. The Clerk was asked to make enquiries with Amey. <<**Action Clerk**>>

9. Rights of Way:

9.1 To receive an update from the Rights of Way Officer: See Autumn Newsletter. Report of 2 trees down over RsOW, one has been dealt with, the RsOW officer is in the process of establishing ownership of the other tree. <<**Action RsOW officer**>>

9.2 Issues for the RsOW Contractor: Cllr reported an accident at Forest Green and felt that it may be due to overhanging hedges, this is a Highways issue. Cllr Carpenter is to send details to the Clerk, who was asked to send letters to the landowners. <<**Action Cllr Carpenter & Clerk**>> Cllr Daniels reported more overhanging hedges, which he will show to the RsOW officer. <<**Action Cllr Daniels & RsOW officer**>>

9.3 Dog fouling signs: It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to pay £10 each for 2 dog fouling signs to go at each end of WA22 and that the Lengthsman would install the signs.

10. Recreational Field Project: The Chair of the working group gave a brief update. The working group is working towards a public consultation, in accordance with PC directives. It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to put the Recreational Field proposals on the next Agenda for the PC to consider the scope of the project and taking it to the public for consideration. <<**Action Clerk & working group**>>

11. Kerne Bridge Canoe Launch Business Plan: The Chairman said that there was not much to report, other than the plan is on the way to completion and a Management Scheme will be in place by December. A meeting is being planned with Bishopswood Village Hall representatives, who do want to be involved in the management scheme. The Chairman will talk to Cllr Daniels about this. <<**Action Chairman & Cllr Daniels**>>

12. Parish Plan: In order to move the Plan forward, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to put Cllr Luke Freeman forward to progress the PP. The Clerk was asked to speak to Cllr Freeman about taking the project on. <<**Action Clerk**>>

13. Scope and content of the Newsletter: It was agreed that everyone was happy with the Newsletter.

14. Councillors reports on local matters: It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that the Clerk should circulate the reports of meetings for publication to all Cllrs. <<**Action Clerk**>> A query was made whether small refuse vehicles would collect from down the narrow lane near to Bishopswood stores. Cllr Jarvis has made enquiries about this and the Clerk was asked to find out from him, if any progress had been made. <<**Action Clerk**>>

15. Correspondence: Appendix C - Noted.

16. Clerk's reports: Appendix D -Noted.

17. Matters for Next Agenda: Forest Green and other items already discussed above. <<**Action Clerk**>>

18. Open session for views and queries from local residents:

- A large number of members of the public were present and several of them voiced their strong concerns about the scale of the Recreational Field proposals. There was a long discussion, resulting in the public being assured that the plan has not been sanctioned and that it is only a 'wish' list at the moment. The Chairman confirmed that the scope of the proposals will be tabled for discussion at the next PC meeting and will be put to the public for consideration. He added that the Localism Bill means that Parishes may need to consider other options, in order to raise money to support projects in the future. <<**Action Recreational Field working group**>> The Chairman also confirmed that he had attended a meeting at the invitation of the Pashley Trust Trustees and, after discussion, had been told that the Trustees have concluded over the years that the playing field should be regarded as the 'school playing field' and they were not at liberty to lease it for any other events. A member of the public commented on the poor condition of Cherry Tree Lane, there are 21 pot holes, hedges are impinging on the roadway and the centre of the road is gravel and moss. He asked if the Highways remedial works information could be published on the website, the Clerk was asked to pursue the matter. <<**Action Clerk**>>
- A member of the public asked about rumours that a 24 hour working garage might be sited at Thorny Orchard. There was a long discussion, during which the Chairman explained the existing planning permissions and that WPC knew no more at the moment. The Chairman agreed to supply the planning application number, so that it could be accessed. <<**Action Chairman**>>

19. To note date of next meeting – Wednesday 9th November: Finance committee at 6.30pm and Full Council at 7.30pm at Bishopswood Village Hall.