

WALFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council

Held at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 14th December in Walford Village Hall**Present:** Cllr Philip Heath – Vice Chairman. (Acting Chairman)

Dave Berry, Cheryl Carpenter, Simeon Cole, Heather Evans, Terry Snow.

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

1. **To accept apologies for absence:** John Daniels, Sandra Cole, Eric Drummond, Luke Freeman, Frank Myers, Marc Thomas.
Absent without apology: George Jones.
2. **To receive declarations of personal/prejudicial interest:** None received.
3. **Open Session – reports:**
 - 3.1 **To receive a verbal report from West Mercia Police:** The Police representative was not able to attend, the Clerk read out their report. A copy is available from the Clerk.
 - 3.2 **To receive a verbal report from Ward Councillor Jarvis:** Cllr Jarvis gave his report; a copy is available from the Clerk. He stated that there will be a ward meeting, probably on 10th January, where David Powell will address all Parishes in the Ward. Date to be confirmed. <<**Action Cllr Jarvis**>>
4. **To adopt minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting – 09/11/11.** It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes as a true and accurate record.
5. **Planning:** See Planning Appendix B.
 - 5.1 **To consider and comment upon the following Planning Applications:**
 - 5.1.1 DMS/113076/FH – Old Chapel House, Leys Hill, HR9 5QU. There were no objections.
 - 5.1.2 DMS/113091/F – Waters Edge, Howle Hill, HR9 5SP. There were no objections.
 - 5.2 **Planning consents noted:** 5.2.1–5.2.4 – DMS/112296/F – Lower Cleeve Farm. DMS/112732/F – Plum Tree Cottage. DMS/102832/F and DMS/102835/F – Land North West and Land East of Coleraine Buildings Farmstead.
 - 5.3 **Planning refusals / Planning enforcements / Withdrawn applications:** None had been received.
6. **Finance:** See Appendix A – Finance Statement.
 - 6.1 It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to pay the additional insurance premium to improve cover on Parish War Memorials.
 - 6.2-6.7 It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the following payments, as listed on the Agenda:
Items 6.2 – 6.3 and 6.5 – 6.7. Item 6.4 was not authorised – as the invoice had not been received in time.
7. **Roads:** 7.1 The badly surfaced road towards Ross was discussed, the contractors who carried out the work are being asked to replace the surface. The road surface at Fowbridge Gardens needs attention and the grit bin outside Fairview, Bulls Hill needs to be filled. The Clerk was asked to report to Amey. <<**Action Clerk**>>. The road junction at Kerne Bridge was discussed. The Chairman is in the process of arranging a meeting about the red road – date TBA – in the meantime, the Clerk was asked to send a copy of the reply that WPC received from Richard Ball to the Vice Chairman. <<**Action Clerk**>> The Vice Chairman offered to write an open letter making a list of points and it was **RESOLVED** to send this letter, if the meeting does not provide satisfactory answers. <<**Action Vice Chairman**>>
8. **Lengthsman:**
 - 8.1 The Lengthsman Co-ordinator was not present, the Clerk gave an update.
 - 8.2 No issues were reported for the attention of the Lengthsman.
 - 8.3 The Winter Maintenance Self Help Scheme report from Amey was noted by the Council.
9. **Rights of Way:**
 - 9.1 The Rights of Way Officer gave her update, the Can Do Crew have been carrying out work as requested and have replaced a missing ROW sign. An e mail from Public Rights of Way, about a meeting which took place with the new owner of Thorny Orchard and the implications for WA50, was read out.
 - 9.2 No issues were reported for the attention of the RsOW contractors.
10. **Recreational Field.**
 - 10.1 It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to adopt the new Terms of Reference for the Recreational Field Committee as part of Standing Orders.
 - 10.2 It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the appointment of the following members of the Recreational Field Committee: Cheryl Carpenter – Chair, David Berry, Luke Freeman, Terry Snow, and Simeon Cole. The Clerk was asked to take minutes at all future Recreational Field Committee meetings. <<**Action Clerk**>>

- 11. Kerne Bridge Canoe Launch:** The Clerk reported that Herefordshire Council are carrying out a review of cultural services – one of which is ‘Countryside’ - which manages Kerne Bridge Canoe Launch site – and a report is going to Cabinet on 15th December. It was **RESOLVED** to await the outcome of the review before any further action is taken.
- The response from HC about the provision of a litter bin at the Canoe Launch site was noted and it was **RESOLVED** to ask the Clerk to reply to HC, saying that the Council should accept the responsibility for this and that it should be made a condition of the site management. <<**Action Clerk**>>
- 12. Parish Resilience Plan:** It was **RESOLVED** to ask the Clerk to send off the Questionnaire, to find out more information and to include a note asking how the Resilience Plan relates to / helps with the Village Agent Scheme. <<**Action Clerk**>>. It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Carpenter would also ask Ward Cllr Jarvis about this, at their Village Agent meeting, which is scheduled in January. <<**Action Cllr Carpenter**>>
- 13. Parish Plan:**
- 13.1 Cllr Freeman has offered to draw up a project brief. It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Freeman will compile a Parish Plan project brief in conjunction with Cllr Thomas, so that a quote can be obtained for finishing off the Parish Plan. <<**Action Cllrs Freeman and Thomas**>>
- 13.2 The clerk read out the grant information from HALC.
- 14. Forest Green:**
- 14.1 There has been no further progress, evidence is still being gathered and those who said that they use the land at Forest Green were asked to send written confirmation to the Clerk / Cllr Carpenter. <<**Action Cllrs and members of the Public**>>
- 14.2 Was postponed until the January meeting.
- 15. Boundary Commission:** The Clerk summarised the report, Cllrs and Public can request a copy from the Clerk.
- 16. Councillor's Reports on Local Matters:** Councillor Berry gave an update, following his attendance at the Broadband Conference. The Clerk was asked to display a copy of his report on the parish website and also to include the Broadband website address in the newsletter and on the website. Cllr Berry was asked to send a copy of his report to the Clerk. Cllr Berry was also asked to write an article promoting Broadband for the Winter Newsletter. The Clerk was asked to enquire with HC, why they are not promoting the Broadband initiative more fully. <<**Action Cllr Berry and Clerk**>> Cllr Heath gave an update on the Walford Links Project, he has had a meeting with the principal landowner and has left a copy of the Trails Trust Guide with him, for his consideration.
- 17. Correspondence Received:** See Appendix C. Correspondence was noted, the Clerk was asked to send a copy of Jesse Norman's PFI article from the Telegraph to Cllr Berry. <<**Action Clerk**>>.
- 18. Clerk's Reports:** See Appendix D. Noted.
- 19. Matters for the next Agenda:** A Cllr reported a building on Leys Hill, which had planning as a fruit store, but looks more like a residence, he will supply further information to the Clerk. <<**Action Cllr Cole**>> The Clerk was asked to speak to the planning dept about the large sign outside the Wye Valley Spa. <<**Action Clerk**>> The signs outside BVH should go on the list for discussion at the planned Highways meeting. <<**Action Clerk**>> A Cllr suggested asking HALC to come and address a PC meeting, to explain their role. It was agreed that the Clerk should invite Lynda Wilcox from HALC to attend the February meeting. <<**Action Clerk**>>
- 20. Open Session for Views & Queries from Local Residents:** A parishioner asked the council for clarification on the remit of the new Recreational Field Committee. The Clerk explained their role, specifically that they did not have power to make decisions on behalf of the council and that all recommendations from the Committee have to be brought to full council for approval. Another parishioner wanted more information on Forest Green registration, expressing her doubt that the land met the criteria for classification as a Village Green. Cllr Carpenter explained the process and the information that had so far been submitted. The parishioner asked that any deliberations and evidence should be put before the public, before the project progresses any further. Cllr Carpenter explained that the subject is both covered in the Newsletters and featured on the Agenda. The Clerk was asked to remind Amey about the bad pot hole on Bulls Hill. The Clerk was asked to feature the Parish Pound in the next Newsletter, saying that it is available for rent. The Clerk was asked to check the criteria, number and spacing of the bollards on Howle Hill, with Amey. <<**Action Clerk**>>
- 21. To note date of next meeting – Wednesday 11th January 2012:** Finance committee meeting – 6.30pm, Full Council at 7.30pm at Bishopswood Village Hall.
