

## **ORCOP PARISH COUNCIL Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 23rd January 2019 at 7.30 pm in Orcop Village Hall**

**Councillors Present** ... Ben Thomas (Chairman), Ian Garlick, Jane Rigler, Richard Watkins In attendance ... Lynda Wilcox - (HALC) Acting Clerk. Ten members of the public.

**1. Apologies for absence** were received from Bob Davies and Dave Jones.

**2. Declarations of interest & written dispensation requests:** There were none.

**3. Minutes of the two previous meetings ... 19.9.18 and 23.10.18.**

It was RESOLVED to adopt both sets of minutes as a true record of meetings held and they were signed by the Chairman.

### **4. Public Forum**

4.1 Verbal report from the Ward Councillor ... David Harlow was unable to be present.

4.2 Views of local residents on parish matters:

4.2.1 There was an offensive odour from Herefordshire Council's sewage farm.

4.2.2 Concern was expressed at Herefordshire Council's planning permission for The Trees.

4.2.3 Local residents had noted that a planning site visit had been held in December and they were awaiting the Inspector's decision on the appeal concerning the Newcastle Farm application.

4.2.4 Jane Rigler reported on her attendance at the Parish Council Summit organised by Herefordshire Council to discuss future budgets and joint working with parish councils. She then commented on all the positive aspects of life in Orcop, including the pub, shop, Parish Hall with busy programme of events, Good Neighbour Scheme, cared-for footpaths and beautiful countryside.

### **5. Planning**

5.1 The following applications had been determined by Herefordshire Council:

5.1.1 Application P183673/PA7 Burhope Farm ... Prior approval not required.

5.1.2 Application P183566/PA7 Windrush Meadow ... Prior approval not required.

5.1.3 Application 183228 Lower Moors Farm ... Approved with conditions.

5.1.4 Application 181664/RM The Trees ... Approved with conditions.

## **6. Finance**

6.1 The bank balances were noted.

6.2 It was RESOLVED to pay the following invoices in line with budget:

6.2.1 HALC Admin Cover (19th September and 17th October) and Web hosting/ Domain name (February 2018-January 2019) ... £447.12.

6.2.2 Eyelid Productions ... Web support (January-December 2019) ... £100.00.

6.2.3 Cardiac Science defibrillator ... £1818.00.

6.3 It was RESOLVED to pay HALC Clerk cover @ £150 + mileage for the meeting.

6.4 It was RESOLVED to pay DC Gardening Services for budgeted work between August and October 2018 ... £192.00.

6.5 Following due consideration it was RESOLVED to approve the draft budget and retain the same precept as for 2018/19 in the sum of £9,200.00.

## **7. Defibrillator**

Members noted that payment would be made under item 6.2.3 above, once an invoice had arrived and the new item of equipment would need to be included in the PC's asset register as well as notified to their insurers.

## **8. Lengthsman**

It was RESOLVED that the Chairman would discuss work required at Copywell with the Lengthsman.

## **9. Footpaths**

The Footpaths Officer (FPO) reported that he had surveyed 60% of the footpaths and would be completing the remaining 40% prior to the end of the financial year. He also spoke of relocating 'lost' footpaths. It was RESOLVED that HALC would ascertain the amount of Herefordshire P3 Funding as yet unspent for the financial year 2018/19, to enable the new clerk to authorise work identified by the FPO with a view to claiming the full grant by 31st March 2019.

**10. Highway Issues** ... The following matters were raised for the attention of Balfour Beatty:

10.1 Potholes between the Fountain Inn and the War Memorial, as well as in Leystone Lane.

10.2 The road was slipping away and cracking on the crest of the ridge near The Heights.

10.3 Water on the road near the Lodge Farm entrance was possibly caused by the drain being too small to cope.

## **11. Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)**

11.1 It was RESOLVED to accept the support package from Kirkwells and to apply for a further grant from Locality in the new financial year (1.4.19.) which would enable spend until 31st March 2020.

11.2 Update on site assessments by Locality ... It was noted that an application for site assessment support had been made to Locality and, if successful, the work to be undertaken by their contractor would need to be completed by the end of March 2019.

## **12. Date of the next meeting and matters for discussion**

Following discussion it was RESOLVED that there would be no meetings in February. The next PC meeting would be in March (probably the third Wednesday but dependent on the availability of the new Clerk) and a date for the next NDP/PC meeting would be set once the external (grant funded) development site assessment had been undertaken. It was further noted that March and April would be subject to Purdah restrictions due to the forthcoming Herefordshire Parish and Unitary Authority elections on 2nd May 2019. It was further RESOLVED that the following items would be on the agenda of the next scheduled PC meeting:

12.1 Refurbishment (painting) of War Memorial.

12.2 Donation to British Legion.

## **13. Information items** were noted as:

13.1 West Mercia Police were offering presentations on crime reduction.

13.2 Hereford Transport Package preview event for PCs on 28th January 2019 between 17.00 and 19.00. Jane Rigler would attend on behalf of the PC.

13.3 Herefordshire Council Chairman's Community Awards Scheme.

*A resolution was passed to exclude the public for the following confidential item*

## **14. Employment of a new clerk** ... Following discussion it was RESOLVED that:

14.1 Jane Rigler and Bob Davies would interview prospective new clerks at the HALC office on Friday 8th February.

14.2 An Extraordinary Meeting would be called for Wednesday 13th February to receive feedback from the interviews and hopefully employ a new Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer.

SIGNED ..... DATE .....

