

BARTESTREE WITH LUGWARDINE GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 5 AUGUST 2014 AT 7.30 PM IN BARTESTREE VILLAGE HALL

Present:

Councillors: D Greenow; Mrs W Soilleux (Chair); G Davies (Vice-Chair); Cllrs J Colley; N Shore; Mrs J Karayiannis; R Williams; Mrs L Hoppé; P Wargent; and M Wilson.

In Attendance:

Mrs E Wilson (Parish Clerk/RFO)

Members of the public: 2

1. To Accept Apologies for Absence

No apologies received

2. To Receive Declarations of Interest and Applications for Dispensations

Item 5 – Cllr M Wilson declared a non-disclosable pecuniary interest, as his stepson owns development land nearby

Resolved: Interests Noted

3. To Co Opt a new Parish Councillor

Resolved: Dr Fiona Matthews was co opted as Parish Councillor

At this stage it was agreed to deal with Agenda Items 4 and 5 in reverse order, as follows:-

Before considering the following Item, the Parish Council stated that they came to this Meeting with an open mind

4. To consider the following amended Planning Application Appeal:

140757 Land East of Church House and West of A438, Bartestree, Hereford
Residential development of up to 51 new dwellings of which up to 18 will be affordable

Comments: The Parish Council noted that the major change to the original application was to include a footway from the site, along the A438, past Lakeside towards Bartestree Crossroads. The proposed width of part of the footway is 1.5m. It is understood that the Manual for Streets suggests a minimum width of 2m and an even greater width next to a heavily used carriageway such as the A438.

In order to construct the footway a large section of mature hedging would have to be removed. Whilst new hedging may be re-planted, this would not protect the natural environment nor add to the existing natural character and landscape of the approach to Bartestree, as set out in UDP Policy S1.1 and S1.2.

The Public Right of Way (PROW) enters the proposed development from the west and stops on the carriageway in the middle of the site. No mention is made of retaining the line of the PROW or of a diversion.

The access to and from the site from the busy (40mph) A438 highway is very close to other points of access that have a history of accidents. The Parish Council considers this to be dangerous and refer to Policy S1.13.

Resolved: The Parish Council's original views stand and they did not support the application. Cllr M Wilson did not vote. Cllr D Greenow abstained.

5. Neighbourhood Development Plan

5.1 The NDP Steering Group recommends to the Parish Council that Stage 4, the full narrative, of the data analysis of the Questionnaires should be undertaken at a cost of £1,980.00, as an aid to writing the policies.

Resolved: Unanimously agreed

5.2 The NDP Steering Group recommends to the Parish Council that the changes to expenditure outlined in the circulated Grant Variation Request Form be requested of Localities, the organisation that provided the grant

Resolved: Unanimously agreed

6. To consider the position and action required regarding the hedge opposite the Village Stores near the pedestrian crossing

Comments: It was noted that the hedge was probably the original boundary of the field prior to the building of 14,15 and 16 Arrowsmith Avenue, Bartestree. Removal of the hedge could result in an on-going movement of soil from the slightly higher levels of the gardens behind the hedge on to the lower level of the pavement in front of the hedge.

Resolved: To choose a new contractor to cut the hedge when the contracts for such work are considered when preparing next year's budget.

7. To Consider the position and action required regarding the Parish footpaths

Comments: It is the landowners' responsibility to keep public footpaths clear.

Resolved: Any concerns should be directed to the Parish Clerk/Cllr Wilson in the first instance. Cllr Wilson will endeavour to speak to the landowner concerned or progress the matter to the Locality Steward if appropriate. In the meantime Cllr Wilson will look into the rules, regulations and procedures regarding the clearance of footpaths and report to the Parish Councillors.

8. To Consider the position and action required regarding Lugwardine Graveyard and Burial Ground

Comments: Although the PC shares the cost of maintenance with the PCC, it feels that the initiative should come from the PCC. The PC has no wish to request a black bin and pay for it to be emptied every two weeks, as there would be only one or two black bags per two weeks.

The PC feels that it should be possible to find a small group of volunteers to carry out this task and for someone to offer a space for the black bag in their black bin. We already have one volunteer to help and space in one bin in Traherne Close (one in St. Peter's Close would be more convenient).

Resolved: Cllr Soilleux will convey these opinions to the PCC for its consideration.

9. To Complete "Police Presence at Parish Council Meetings" Questionnaire for submission to HALC

Resolved: Questionnaire completed. The Clerk to submit to HALC

Meeting concluded at 8.55pm

Signature of Chair

9 September 2014

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