

BARTESTREE WITH LUGWARDINE GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

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Meeting of Bartestree with Lugwardine Group Parish Council at 7:30PM on Tuesday 14th February 2023 at Bartestree Village Hall, HR1 4BY

Minutes 02/2023

Present: Lin Hoppe (Chair), David Evans, Jenny Karayiannis, Geoff Davies, Wendy Soilleux, Andy Thomas, Polly Smith, Fiona Harris, Ron Williams, Nigel Shore, Alan Long

In attendance: David Hunter-Miller (Clerk), Paul Andrews (Ward Councillor), Nick Hall (Police), twenty-three members of the public

1. Chairman's welcome and announcements

Lin Hoppe opened the meeting and welcomed residents.

2. Apologies for absence

All members present.

3. Declarations of personal and prejudicial interest

3.1. Register of Interests

Noted.

3.2. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Nil declared.

3.3. Other Disclosable Interests

Ron Williams declared an Other Disclosable Interest in items 4.4 and 8.

Nigel Shore declared an Other Disclosable Interest in items 4.4 and 8.

Andy Thomas declared an Other Disclosable Interest in item 9.

Polly Smith declared an Other Disclosable Interest in item 9.

3.4. Dispensations

Nil received.

4. Open Session

The meeting was adjourned for the open session.

4.1. Police

Nick Hall from the Police 'We Don't Buy Crime' team gave a presentation on the SmartWater initiative. It was noted that SmartWater kits are normally £25.00 each but under the scheme they are discounted to £8.90, with a further 25% grant funding by the Police and Crime Commissioner. The scheme needs to have at least 80% coverage of the parish before it would be eligible for signage. A study has identified that SmartWater protected areas see a reduction of 33% in acquisitive crime.

It was RESOLVED to add to a future agenda for consideration.



4.2. Ward Councillor

Paul Andrews provided a report as follows:

- During school half term there would be a number of activities for children including bike training and swimming lessons.
- The 'Neighbourhood Matters' service is available to residents for keeping up to date with local matters.
- Issues with roads, including potholes, can be reported via Herefordshire Council's app or via telephone.

4.3. Village Hall Representatives

Alan Long provided a report as follows:

- The Village Hall Committee AGM had been held recently.
- Blinds had been ordered for the village hall meeting room.
- Bookings for the hall remained strong.
- A beer and wine event is planned for the 24th June and this was being run by the Rotary Club.

4.4. Playing Fields Association Representative

Ron Williams provided a brief report. It was noted that maintenance activities were ongoing.

4.5. Eco-friendly Working Party

Lin Hoppe provided a brief report.

4.6. Tree Officer

No matters were reported.

4.7. PRow Officer

It was reported that Footpath LU15 was in poor condition and this had been reported to Herefordshire Council for investigation.

4.8. Public participation

Members of the public raised various queries and concerns related to the Community Field project (item 8), including:

- Concerns were expressed that the proposals for the Community Field would not include enough facilities for older children.
- Concerns were expressed that the proposals for two football pitches would take away space for other facilities.
- Concerns were expressed that the proposals for two football pitches might proceed ahead of wider public consultation.
- Concerns were expressed that the parish demographic was not being represented by the Parish Council's current proposals and priorities.
- Feedback from Bartestree Football Club was received in support of the proposals for two football pitches. It was noted that grant funding would be available to develop the proposed additional pitches without the need for investment from the Parish Council.

Members of the public enquired about the election process; the Clerk confirmed that Parish Council elections were scheduled for May 2023 and anyone interested in becoming a Parish Councillor should contact Herefordshire Council for advice and for the necessary forms.

The meeting resumed following the open session.

5. To consider and adopt the minutes from the Parish Council meeting on the 10th January 2023

It was RESOLVED to adopt the minutes as a true record and they were duly signed by the Chair.

6. Progress reports

6.1. Diversion order, footpaths LU10 and LU12

No update was available.

6.2. Obstruction issues, footpath LU12

No update was available.

6.3. Winter 'warm havens'

It was noted that no response had been received to the Parish Council's enquires, but such facilities could be considered in future if there was demand.

6.4. Community Speed Watch

It was noted that the Police were undertaking basic checks for the Community Speed Watch volunteers and it was hoped that the scheme would be operational shortly.

6.5. Lugg Bridge/Cycleway Project

It was noted that the project Statement of Intent was being updated following feedback from a recent stakeholder meeting. It was hoped that the project consultant would be able to give a short presentation at the next Parish Council meeting.

7. Correspondence

7.1. Herefordshire Council: Update on the Local Plan 2021-2041 and Hereford and surrounding parishes place shaping consultation

An update was received on a recent online meeting regarding Herefordshire Council's Local Plan 2021-2041 and plans to develop housing at sites surrounding and adjacent to Hereford city. One of the proposed sites would involve the small part of Lugwardine (south of the A438 and Tidnor Lane and extending down to Hampton Park Road). A possible joint response with Hampton Bishop Parish Council might be coordinated. It was RESOLVED to add to the next meeting to consider further.

7.2. Parishioner: Offer of donated Bartestree Squash Perry pear trees

It was RESOLVED to accept the kind offer of donated trees; a location for planting the donated trees would be reviewed at a future meeting.

8. Community Field

Nigel Shore and Ron Williams left the room for the duration of item 8.

8.1. To receive a brief verbal report from the Community Field Working Group

Considerable discussion was held on this item during the Open Session (item 4).

A named vote was requested for all items relating to the Community Field, below.



8.2. To consider approval for a large football pitch (100.6 X 64m) and a smaller football pitch (45 X 32m) to be provided on the Community Field as a minimum

It was RESOLVED that discussion on this item would not be deferred.

- Polly Smith, Lin Hoppe, Alan Long voted in support of deferring the item.
- Wendy Soilleux, Fiona Harris, Andy Thomas, Geoff Davies, Jenny Karayiannis, David Evans voted against deferring the item.

It was RESOLVED that a large football pitch (100.6 X 64m) and a smaller football pitch (45 X 32m) would be provided on the Community Field as a minimum.

- Wendy Soilleux, Geoff Davies, David Evans, Jenny Karayiannis, Fiona Harris voted in support of providing the pitches as a minimum.
- Polly Smith, Lin Hoppe, Alan Long, Andy Thomas voted against providing the pitches as a minimum.

8.3. To consider approval for developing the football pitches ahead of the proposed public consultation (and any application for a public works loan)

It was RESOLVED unanimously to defer development of the proposed football pitches until the public consultation had concluded.

8.4. To consider approval of the latest draft consultation document

It was RESOLVED unanimously to approve a simplified table for collating feedback in the consultation.

It was RESOLVED to approve the draft consultation document as revised by the Herefordshire Association of Local Councils (HALC).

- Lin Hoppe, Alan Long, David Evans, Polly Smith, Andy Thomas voted in support of using the HALC revised consultation document.
- Wendy Soilleux, Geoff Davies voted against using the HALC revised consultation document.
- Fiona Harris, Jenny Karayiannis abstained.

The Clerk notes that the HALC revised draft consultation document would require further amendment if it is to be in accordance with the resolution in item 8.2 above.

8.5. To consider approval of consultation dates – noting the Clerk's concerns over the 'purdah' pre-election period

It was RESOLVED unanimously to defer publication of the consultation until after the May 2023 elections.

8.6. To consider approval of a cash incentive to encourage consultation responses

It was RESOLVED unanimously that a cash incentive was not necessary. It was noted that this suggestion had come from the Herefordshire Association of Local Councils.

8.7. To consider approval of printing costs, stamps, labels, envelopes and Freepost address

It was RESOLVED unanimously to approve up to £850.00 to cover consultation expenses.

8.8. To consider approval for use of the Community Field for temporary car parking for a sports event on the 20th/21st May 2023

It was RESOLVED that the field should not be used for car parking in support of the proposed sports event on the 20th/21st May 2023.

- Wendy Soilleux, David Evans, Jenny Karayiannis, Geoff Davies voted in support of approving parking for this event.
- Fiona Harris, Alan Long, Andy Thomas, Polly Smith, Lin Hoppe voted against approving parking for this event.

8.9. To review pedestrian and vehicular access to the Community Field

It was RESOLVED unanimously to defer discussions on this item until a future meeting.

9. Village Hall

9.1. To consider an update on proposals to change the status of Bartestree Village Hall from an Unincorporated Charity to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation

It was RESOLVED to defer discussions on this item until advice had been sought from HALC.

9.2. To consider supporting the purchase of an automatic gate at the Village Hall

It was RESOLVED to support the purchase of an automatic gate in principle. Finalised costs and a specific request for funding would be submitted to a future Parish Council meeting for consideration.

9.3. To consider quotes for planning/design services in relation to improvements to the village hall access

It was RESOLVED to defer discussions on this item until the next meeting.

10. Highways and Lengthsman

10.1. To receive a brief verbal report from the Highway Working Group

A short update was received. It was noted that an 'Aspirational Highways Plan' was being developed by ARF Highway Services. Applications had been made to Balfour Beatty Living places for gateway features and enhanced school signage and a response was awaited.

10.2. To receive an update on the Lengthsman Scheme

It was confirmed that the details of the Lengthsman vacancy for 2023/24 had been posted on the Parish Council's website and Facebook page and that enquiries had been sent to nearby Parish Councils.

11. Planning and NDP

11.1. To receive a brief verbal report from the Planning Committee

It was noted that the Planning Committee would respond to the following application as follows:

- P230112/L – support

11.2. To receive a brief verbal report from the NDP Steering Group

It was noted that the revised NDP was at Examination stage and a number of queries had been raised (as below).

11.3. To consider a response to representations received at the NDP Regulation 16 stage consultation

It was RESOLVED to approve a response to representations received at the Regulation 16 stage consultation, as recommended by the Parish Council's planning consultant.

11.4. To consider a response to questions raised by the NDP examiner



It was RESOLVED to approve a response to questions raised by the Examiner, as recommended by the Parish Council's planning consultant.

11.5. To consider the NDP examiner's recommendation that a referendum will be required for adoption of the revised plan

It was RESOLVED to approve the Examiner's decision for a referendum on adopting the revised NDP.

12. Parish matters for discussion/decision

12.1. To consider grass verge cutting arrangements and Balfour Beatty's 'no spring cut' offer

It was RESOLVED to request that Balfour Beatty Living Places continue with two cuts per year as per the current arrangement.

12.2. To receive an update on replacement/modification of the village hall noticeboard

No update was available.

12.3. To consider the purchase of a dedication plaque to Mike Wilson for Beech Meadow

It was RESOLVED to approve up to £50.00 for the purchase of a dedication plaque to former Councillor Mike Wilson. The following inscription was approved:

In memory of

Mike Wilson

In grateful thanks for his long-term commitment to our parish

(DOB to be confirmed) - 2022

12.4. To consider the purchase of Countryside Code signage

It was RESOLVED to defer discussions on this item until a future Parish Council meeting.

12.5. To consider the purchase of dog fouling/litter signs

It was RESOLVED to defer discussions on this item until a future Parish Council meeting.

12.6. To consider a Terms of Reference for the Eco Working Group

It was RESOLVED to adopt a Terms of Reference for the Eco Working Group.

12.7. To consider the RoSPA annual play area inspections for the Frome Park play area (£75.00 +VAT) and the Village Hall play area (£75.00 +VAT)

It was RESOLVED to approve the RoSPA play area inspections for the Frome Park and Village Hall play areas.

12.8. To consider the purchase of replacement/additional Neighbourhood Watch signs

It was RESOLVED to defer discussions on this item until a future Parish Council meeting.

12.9. To consider the date and format of the Annual Parish Meetings

It was RESOLVED to defer discussions on this item until the next Parish Council meeting.

13. Finance

13.1. Budget expenditure

It was RESOLVED to approve the budget expenditure.

13.2. Bank reconciliation

It was RESOLVED to approve the bank reconciliation.

13.3. Invoices

13.3.1. David Hunter-Miller (February salary)

13.3.2. Worcestershire County Council Pension Fund (February pension)

13.3.3. R Francis (play area checks): £90.00

13.3.4. HALC (subscription fee): £1,520.00

13.3.5. Creative Play (play area repairs): £108.00

13.3.6. Lin Hoppe (notice board pins): £7.99

13.3.7. GW Shelter Solutions Ltd (bus shelter): £12,069.60

It was RESOLVED to settle the above invoices.

13.4. Clerk's Delegation

13.4.1. 16/01/23 Jonathan Jackson (fencing): £147.70

13.4.2. 16/01/23 CPRE (membership): £36.00

The above delegated payments, made between scheduled meetings, were noted.

14. Councillors' reports and items for the next agenda

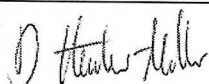
It was RESOLVED to add the following deferred items to a future agenda:

- Police SmartWater Initiative
- Local Plan 2021-2041 and the Hereford and surrounding parishes place shaping consultation
- Community Field pedestrian and vehicular access
- Bartestree Village Hall change of status from an Unincorporated Charity to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation
- Planning/design services in relation to improvements to the village hall access
- Countryside Code signage
- Dog fouling/litter signs
- Replacement/additional Neighbourhood Watch signs
- Date and format of the Annual Parish Meetings

15. Date of the next meeting

The next scheduled Parish Council meeting is at 7:30PM on Tuesday 14th March 2023.

The meeting closed at 10:09PM.



David Hunter-Miller
Clerk and RFO