

BARTESTREE WITH LUGWARDINE GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 8 JULY 2014 AT 7.30 PM IN BARTESTREE VILLAGE HALL

Present:

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

In Attendance:

Mrs E Wilson (Parish Clerk/RFO); Lucinda Rowberry (Chair NDPSG)

Members of the public: None

1. To Accept Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Cllrs J Colley and N Shore

2. To Adopt the Minutes of the Meetings held on Tuesday 13 May 2014 and 17 June 2014

The Clerk confirmed that the Minutes had previously been circulated to Council Members.

Resolved: The Minutes were adopted and signed by the Chair

3. To Receive Declarations of Interest and Applications for Dispensations

Item 7 – Cllr M Wilson declared a non-disclosable pecuniary interest, as his stepson owns development land nearby

Item 7 - Cllr R Williams declared a non-disclosable pecuniary interest as a Member of the Playing Fields Association and Cricket Club

Resolved: Interests Noted

4. Neighbourhood Development Plan

The points on the Agenda were dealt with in the following order:

4.3 To approve the amended NDP Business Questionnaire and accompanying letter

Comments: The Questionnaire had been circulated prior to the Meeting. Minor amendments were noted.

Resolved: Approved

4.2 To approve the amended NDP Community Questionnaire and accompanying letter

Comments: The Questionnaire had been circulated prior to the Meeting. Minor amendments were noted.

Resolved: Approved

4.4 To approve the method of distribution and return of the above Surveys

Comments: The Herefordshire Council liaison officer, Gemma, recommended that the Questionnaires be sent out by ordinary post with a stamped addressed envelope included for the response. This will greatly reduce the risk of interference with the Questionnaires.

Resolved: Approved

4.1 To receive a Report from The NDPSG Chair

Comments: The Chair had attended a long meeting with Gemma at Herefordshire Council to discuss the position to date and the way forward. The return rate of the Residents' Questionnaires was very good with approximately 76% of households returning the completed forms. It was not possible to establish an exact return per adult as the returned envelopes were sealed and some contained more than one Questionnaire. Once the analysis has been completed arrangements will have to be made for a Public Consultation in the Parish. The Chair is also making a start on drafting the Plan for approval by the Parish Council.

Resolved: The verbal Report was noted and the Chair thanked for her work to date.

5. To Receive Brief Verbal Reports from:

5.1 District Cllr D Greenow

Comments: Cllr Greenow noted the new road surfacing on the A438 through the villages. There is a small section eastwards from Williams Mead that requires completion by making good. Some residents had pointed out that the much improved road surface has encouraged some motorists to exceed the speed limit, as there were no longer potholes to slow the traffic down. It was noted that Herefordshire Council had received various complaints regarding the reduced grass cutting. It is hoped that some local farmers will assist. The health and safety risk has been pointed out to the Herefordshire Council of children being 'forced' onto the highway due to overgrown verges.

Resolved: Report noted and Cllr Greenow thanked.

5.2 Local Police Officer

Resolved: In the absence of a local Officer, no report was received

6. Open Time – To Note Matters Raised by Local Residents Relevant to the Parish

Comments: Mr Mason from Lodge Bungalow, Lugwardine wished to thank the Parish Council for its support regarding the problems with the Yew tree. He asked that Cllr M Wilson represent him at the forthcoming Planning Committee hearing of his application. Mr John King-Salter of Hagley Court said that his father-in-law catches the bus on a regular basis and Mr King-Salter was concerned at the state of the vegetation near the bus stop near the New Inn. His father-in-law is a frail man and he feels as though he is being 'pushed' closer to the highway by the overgrown grass.

Mr Laurie White commented on the long delay for the traffic lights at the village stores to respond to pedestrians' requests. He was also concerned at the trees obscuring the lights from traffic.

Resolved: The speakers were thanked and their comments noted. The Clerk would chase Balfour Beatty regarding the overgrown vegetation and traffic lights.

7. To consider the following amended Planning Applications:

140926 Land to the South of the A438, Parcel No 0008 and part Parcel No 2308, Bartestree, Herefordshire

Comments: It was noted that the changes to the application related to access to the site only, which was on the Traffic Manager's advice. It was considered that the proposed junctions would create chaos on the A438. The amendments were not considered to be an improvement. No information regarding site layout was supplied.

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

140757 Land East of Church House and West of A438, Bartestree

Comments: The PROW is unclear. It was noted that the proposed footway to Bartestree Crossroads was unclear as there was no information supplied on how this would be achieved. It was also noted that there was no provision for a cycleway to the village. Provision for a right turn lane on the A438 was welcomed.

Resolved: The Parish Council did not consider that the amendments are an improvement and its original comments stand. They did not support the application. Cllr M Wilson did not vote.

8. Financial Matters

8.1 To Receive a Report from the RFO

The RFO gave a report and commented that bank balances to date were in order. Community A/C £24,998.92 and Business Saver A/C £18,913.04

The Financial Sheet including payments made and income received since the last Meeting was previously circulated

Resolved: The Financial Report was noted and accepted by the Council

8.2 To Consider and Agree:

8.2.1 Payments made since 13 May 2014 [As listed on Finance Report]

Resolved: The following payments were noted:-

NDP – hire of Village hall x 2 (871) £19.50; Advantage – Envelopes NDP (872) £30.56; A Bayliss – Play Area Insp (873) £45.00; Eve Wilson – May Salary/Room Allowance/Lengthsman (874) £***; Public Works Loan Board (DD) £3,116.51; Print Plus – Booklets (875) £160.00; B&Q – Woodfiller/ T Mobile Top Up (876) £13.98; Playdale Playgrounds (877) £39.60; DC Gardening Services (878) £555.00; Daniel Squire (879) £162.00; Impact Print – NDP Questionnaires (880) £357.60; Printer Ink (881) £27.84; Mike Dyer (882) £210.00; EAG Wilson (883) £549.83

8.2.2 Payment of outstanding Invoices [As listed on Finance Report]

Resolved: The following payments were agreed:-

Daniel Squire (885) £126.00; DC Gardening Services (886) £570.00; Mr A Bayliss (887) £45.00; Lugwardine Primary Academy (888) £10.00; Mr M Lewis – hedge cutting (889) £30.00; Eve Wilson June Salary and Room Allowance (890) £***

8.3 Finance Working Group Recommend

8.3.1 To adopt the NALC version of the Financial Regulations [As Circulated]

Resolved: Adopted

8.3.2 To purchase the following books for use by the Parish Clerk and the Councillors:-

- (a) Arnold-Baker on Local Council Administration Ninth Edition from HALC £56.25 plus VAT
- (b) Local Councils Explained by Meera Tharmarajah from HALC £39.99 plus VAT
- (c) Governance & Accountability for Local Councils (England) Practitioners Guide 2014 from SLCC £20.00 plus delivery

Resolved: Agreed

9. To Consider and Complete the Rural Housing Policy Review Questionnaire circulated by HALC

Resolved: Questionnaire completed and submitted

10. To Consider hiring out the Parish IT equipment

Comments: Various issues were raised including the position regarding insurance. The Clerk is to make further enquiries.

Resolved: Deferred to next Meeting.

11. To Consider the letter received from www.Oil-club.co.uk dated 27 June 2014

Resolved: A note will be made in the Parish Magazine and anyone interested can contact the Clerk for contact details.

12. To Consider holding monthly Meetings

Comments: The Chair felt that all Councillors should be present to discuss this item. A 'testing' vote was taken with 2 for and 6 against.

Resolved: Deferred for 6 months

13. To Note the Information Sheet

Resolved: Noted

14. To Raise Items for the next Scheduled Parish Council Meeting [no discussion]

All items referred from these Minutes

- 15. To Note the Date and Time of the next Scheduled Parish Council Meeting**
Tuesday 9 September 2014 at 7:30pm

Meeting concluded at 8.50pm

Signature of Chair

Date: 9 September 2014