

Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of
GOODRICH & WELSH BICKNOR GROUP PARISH COUNCIL
THURSDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER 2017 at 19.30 hrs
at Goodrich Village Hall

Attendees: Cllrs. Nigel Roper, Robin Hulse, Lance Harbord, Martin Rowberry, Lorna Vaughan, Sian Watson, Richard Barradale-Smith

Present: 2 members of the public, Cllr Paul Newman (County Cllr.)

1. APOLOGIES – Cllr. Mark Jessup

It was noted that the Clerk was unavailable for personal reasons and that Cllr. Hulse would take the minutes in her absence

2. MEMBERS' INTERESTS RELATING TO ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA

Cllr. Nigel Roper declared an interest in Item 4c as the husband of one of the owners of the land

Cllr. Mrs Lorna Vaughan declared an interest in Item 4a (172428)

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR WERE INVITED TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

A member of the public asked whether the parish council made a financial contribution to the of the churchyard grass as he thought the churchyard was very neglected. He also suggested that a working party could be formed. Cllr. Hulse would speak with the Church warden.

Cllr. Newman provided his report as Ward Councillor. An update on the commencement date for the start of repair work on the landslip at Welsh Bicknor had been requested, both from Heather Irvine the lead and also from Richard Perkins her boss. Nothing back so far, so I assume that we are working with the ground investigation supplier we were seeking, to complete the works prior to Christmas. Cllr. Newman continues to highlight the urgency of this issue and keep chasing. On 18th July 2017 he gave a talk on Coppett Hill to the Goodrich afternoon club, of which he is a member. It was an open meeting, and proved very popular. Special thanks to Ken Gort for helping with the IT. A very positive write up subsequently appeared in the Ross Gazette. He also attended the annual garden party of the afternoon club, in August. If anyone knows someone in the community who might benefit from the comradeship offered by the Goodrich Afternoon Club they should advise Cllr. Newman, who would be very happy to pick them up for an introductory visit if they need transport. There was no update from the county council, due to the summer quiet period.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETINGS ON 6TH JULY AND 3RD AUGUST.

It was resolved that the minutes from the meetings on 6th July and 3rd August were a true record and both sets of minutes were signed accordingly by the Chairman.

4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(a) Applications Received

172428 St Margarets Church, Coppett Hill, Welsh Bicknor, HR9 6JJ

Listed Building Consent for proposed new leaded light windows, ceiling, wall and door refurbishment, floor repairs and improvements, repairs and refurbishment to fixtures and fittings, new partial electrical installation and new heating reusing existing pipework.

It was noted that councillors had dealt with this application between meetings and that no objection had been raised.

172870 Witches Fell, Symonds Yat, HR9 6JL

Proposed two storey extension

It was unanimously resolved that there were no objections to this application

172718 Land Adjacent to Jollys of Goodrich, Goodrich, HR9 6HX

Erection of four bedroom detached dwelling with detached garage.

It was unanimously resolved that there were no objections to this application

(b) Applications Decisions / Determinations

171647 Bryants Court Farm, Goodrich, HR9 6JA

Installation of solar photovoltaic panels fixed to the roof of the existing poultry building

Approved with conditions

171836 Land adjoining Bryants Court Cottage, Goodrich
Proposed two new dwellings
Approved with conditions

Cllr. Harbord questioned why this application had been approved, against the parish council wishes and at odds with the original planning permission. Cllr. Newman suggested that there could be more dialogue before passing such applications

171926 The Gatehouse, Pencraig, Ross-On-Wye, Herefordshire, HR9 6HR
Listed Building consent for Proposed "slimline" double glazed units to some selected windows.
Approved with conditions

172511 Endeen, Goodrich, HR9 6JA
Retrospective replacement dwelling
Approved with conditions.

Cllr. Roper left the meeting and Cllr. Hulse took over as Chairman for the following item.

(c) Other Planning Matters

171562 Land adjacent to St Giles Church. Council to consider a request from a resident that they request the addition of a planning condition requiring the current owners to set up a Management and Maintenance Agreement for the funding and carrying out of ongoing maintenance of the open area.

Cllr. Newman was asked why the processing of this application was taking so long to go through the system and Cllr. Newman suggested that it may be due to the sensitive nature of the land in relation to the Church

It was unanimously resolved that the council would not seek to progress the resident's suggestion.

Cllr. Roper returned to the meeting and took over as Chairman.

5. NEW ITEMS

(a) Highways and footpaths

- Council considered whether there were any urgent new issues. Potholes – B4229 (200 metres Goodrich side of Newmills Hill. Marstow (between New Court Farm and New House Farm. Coppett Hill (numerous)
- Council considered concerns raised regarding the blocked drains on Castle Lane, including whose responsibility it is to clear them. Councillors were unclear on where ownership / responsibility lay with regard to Castle Lane. **It was resolved** that the Clerk would contact Balfour Beatty to try and resolve the issue.

(b) Goodrich and Welsh Bicknor Parish Council Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)

- Council considered the "Site Assessment Criteria" – Cllr. Hulse lead.
- Council considered whether they wanted to raise any queries / matters for clarification relating to the discussion item due for the October meeting of the council regarding the Community Questionnaire and NDP Housing Needs Analysis (as provided to the councillors by email).

Cllr. Hulse presented, on behalf of the NDP Steering Group, the Land Assessment Criteria document.

Cllr. Harbord asked how the NDP team had reached the decision on the sites for development criteria. It was explained that the information was gathered from the residents survey that took place earlier in the year. Cllr. Harbord also asked why the NDP team had now decided on three settlement boundaries rather than the two, as there were under the UDP. It was explained that to maintain green open spaces between settlements, as requested by residents in the survey, and achieve the targeted number of additional house, a third settlement boundary was necessary, and Goodrich Cross area was the most suitable. Cllr. Harbord asked why Welsh Bicknor had not been selected as a settlement area and it was explained that small hamlets did not meet the criteria to be recognised as settlements.

The Land Assessment Criteria document was unanimously approved by council.

It was noted that the Clerk had received information relating to proposals for the development of Bivia Meadow and that councillors should view the information and detail any queries relating to detail to the Clerk so that she could obtain clarification in advance of any formal discussion by council.

Cllr. Mrs Sian Watson left the meeting at 20.21 hrs.

(c) Dry Arch Bridge / Black Bridge

- Council considered concerns raised by a resident regarding the increase in traffic using Dry Arch Bridge (in part as a result of the closure of Black Bridge). The council understood the concerns raised by a resident regarding increased traffic on Dry Arch Bridge as a result of the closure of Black Bridge / Stowfield Viaduct. **It was resolved** that the Clerk would contact Herefordshire Council to enquire when the last structural survey was carried out on Dry Arch Bridge.

The Clerk would advise the resident of the council's actions.

- Council considered any other matters relating to Black Bridge and decide whether any further action is necessary at this time. Cllr. Newman referred to eh feasibility study carried out on Stowfield Viaduct / Black Bridge. He also confirmed that both county councils continue to work towards a joint resolution.

(d) Public Access Defibrillator (PAD)

- Possible location for final machine and funding of cabinet – fundraising – if appropriate. Cllrs. Hulse and Jessup to update.

CARRY FORWARD

(e) Moors Meadow / Greenspace

- Clerk / Chairman were due to update on the progress of the purchase but there was no update available.
- Play Area Inspection – It was noted that the inspection had still not taken place and that no information had been received by the Clerk to suggest when it would. It was also noted that Cllr. Hulse was carrying out fortnightly visual inspections.

(f) War Memorial

Council considered concerns raised regarding the surface in front of the memorial. Cllr. Rowberry provided photos of the damaged surface. Cllr. Newman suggested that financial assistance may be available via the War Memorials Trust, by way of a grant, and that Walford Parish Council (Catherine Murray) had recently had dealings with them.

It was resolved that the Clerk would investigate grant opportunities and report at the next meeting.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

- Advice that Precept requests are required by 31st December – councillors to advise Clerk of any specific items to be included in the budget prior to the initial consideration at the October meeting.

(b) HALC

- Information Corner:
 - New HALC website address <https://halchereford.gov.uk/>
 - Notification of AGM (28th October)
 - Reform of the Data Protection Act legislation – council to note that the Clerk will be reviewing this and bringing it to a later meeting for further discussion.
 - Neighbourhood Planning reforms – giving NDPs further strength within the planning process.

7. REPORTS / CONSULTATIONS

(a) HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

- Minerals & Waste Local Plan – Issues and Options Consultation – available online with responses required by 6th October 2017.
- Rights of Way Improvement Plan consultation – responses by 10th November 2017

8. FINANCE

(a)	Statement of Accounts (after paying August expenses and September Clerk's wages)		
	Deposit Account	£	closed
	Treasurers Account	£	15,483.25
	Petty Cash	£	12.19
(b)	Grant Applications under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972		
	None		

(c)	Un-cleared cheques as at 28/7/17		
	Miss A Jones (reimbursement for printer)	£	216.00
	Ian Binns (internal audit services)	£	40.00
	Miss A Jones (expenses)	£	40.53
(d)	Adverse variance to budget (2017/18)		
(e)	Cheques for Payment		
	Miss A Jones (expenses – stamps £6.72, and printing @ est. 50 copies per month + 40 extra for APM @ 7.5pp copy – March 17 – 9 th July 17 £18.75)	£	25.47 646
	Miss A Jones (additional hours – website preparation – 4 hrs as approved.)	£	c/f
	Herefordshire Council (peppercorn rental for Moors Meadow)	£	10.00 647
	Mr K Shilton (emergency Clerk cover)	£	33.75 648
	Grant Thornton UK LLP (external audit service)	£	120.00 649
	Miss A Jones (reimbursement for ink for new printer)	£	28.75 650
	It was resolved that the above cheques be paid and they were duly signed		
	Cheques raised between meeting – for retrospective approval		
	Data Orchard CIC (NDP consultant fees)	£	1,851.60 645
	It was resolved that the above expenditure was covered by the agreed process for dealing with NDP expenditure, and the payment was formally approved by council.		
(f)	Other Payments - Clerk's wages and office allowance (28 th August and September 2017 – s/o)	£	620.72
(g)	Income Received		
	Goodrich Greenspace Project (donation to cover the costs of providing new fencing along the old school building boundary)	£	380.00

(h) Independent External Audit – The Annual Return has been returned by Grant Thornton and their report confirms that the information and practices are in order and there are no matters to be brought to the attention of the parish council. **It was resolved** that the council confirm receipt of the external audit report and approval of its contents.

9. INFORMATION SHARE – NOT REQUIRING FORMAL DISCUSSION / DECISIONS / SPEND - None

10. TRAINING / MEETINGS AND SEMINARS

Saturday 14th October – High Sheriff of Herefordshire “Tackling Loneliness” event for Clerks and Chairmen, at the Bishop's Palace. Pre-booking essential via HALC

Saturday 28th October – HALC – Conference and AGM at Hereford College for the Blind from 9.30am – 3.00pm

11. ITEMS FOR NEXT / FUTURE MEETINGS

Reform of the Data Protection Act legislation
2018/19 budget – first draft
War Memorial repairs / expenditure

12. NEXT MEETING

Thursday 5th October 2017.

Meeting ended at 20.45 hrs

Certified as an accurate record of the proceedings of the meetings of Goodrich & Welsh Bicknor Group Parish Council held on 7th September 2017.

Signed :

Date :

Chairman