

**Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of**  
**GOODRICH & WELSH BICKNOR GROUP PARISH COUNCIL**  
**THURSDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2018 at 19.30 hrs**  
**at Goodrich Village Hall**

**Attendees:** Cllrs. Richard Barradale-Smith (arrived late), Robin Hulse, Martin Rowberry, Mrs Lorna Vaughan, Mrs Sian Watson

**Present:** 6 members including Ken Gort, Cllr. Paul Newman (county councillor), Miss A Jones (Clerk)

As Vice Chairman, Cllr. Hulse Chaired the meeting in Cllr. Roper's absence.

1. **APOLOGIES** - Cllrs. Lance Harbord, Mark Jessup and Nigel Roper
2. **MEMBERS' INTERESTS RELATING TO ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA** – None

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WERE INVITED TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL AT THIS TIME**

A resident asked whether a councillor who was under investigation was allowed to take part and vote in meetings. The Chairman advised that as everyone is innocent until proven guilty, this would not impact on a councillor's duties. The resident then asked whether the tenants of a councillor who has declared an interest should also declare an interest and leave the room. The Clerk explained that there is no requirement to declare an interest unless a matter for discussion would impact on a particular councillor more than another resident, and that it was therefore unlikely that being a tenant would be considered an interest. She also advised that it would most likely be a personal interest and therefore the councillor would still be able to take part in the discussion and vote and would not be required to leave the room as is the case with pecuniary interests. The Clerk advised the resident to contact her again if he required any further information.

Cllr. Newman advised that the county council had recently adopted a new code of conduct. He advised that the bird and bat survey on dry arch bridge had delayed the remedial works but that the vegetation had now been cleared along with loose rock and a structural survey was due to be completed on 11<sup>th</sup> June. Finally he advised that he had transported a local man from the Goodrich afternoon club to attend an event at Dean Forest Railway and explained that he would be happy to provide a similar service to other residents if he is available, upon request.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETINGS OF 3<sup>RD</sup> MAY 2018.**

It was noted that the Clerk had amended the page numbers since the draft minutes were advertised.

**It was resolved** that the minutes of the meetings (APM and Annual Meeting if the parish council) on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2018 with correct page numbers were an accurate record of the meeting and they were duly signed by the Chairman

**4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**(a) Applications Received**

181528 The Old Mill, Goodrich

Proposed repair and refurbishment of former bake house to a one bedroomed holiday unit.

**It was resolved** that no objection be raised.

**(b) Applications Decisions**

180741 The Old Coach House, Goodrich Manor, Goodrich

Proposed change of use of redundant agricultural land to amenity space and garden

**Noted**

**(c) Planning Applications Dealt With Between Meetings**

181422 Rock View, Goodrich

Proposed two storey extension

The Parish Council raised no objection

**(d) Other Planning Matters**

P180723/0 The orchard, Coppett Hill

Council considered correspondence regarding the application, which has been passed to the parish council for their action. The information related to the non-determination of the application and the subsequent immediate lodge of an appeal by the applicant. The planning department had requested that the appeal be subject to a hearing rather than written representations, due to the strength of feeling locally. They suggested that residents should also contact the planning inspectorate to press for a hearing. **It was resolved** that the parish council would lobby the planning inspectorate for a hearing, making specific reference to the NDP and concerns that the inspectorate may not be aware of how prominent or sensitive the location is.

## 5. NEW ITEMS

(a) **Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)** – Ken Gort provided the council with an update, advising that the consultation ended on 24<sup>th</sup> April and that the responses were more or less as expected but that the Herefordshire Council response caused some concern. Most issues have been resolved but the NDP steering group are due to meet with Herefordshire Council to look further at those that remain. Once this activity is complete, the steering group will review and adjust the plan accordingly and it will then be put before the parish council to review and adopt the plan. The plan will then progress to Regulation 16 (Independent Examiner) and then to referendum. It was noted by council that the main issues for Herefordshire Council were in relation to noise and pollution from the A40.

(b) **Moors Meadow** – Council considered the recently completed play area inspection report. Cllr. Hulse had carried out the necessary actions relating to entrapment risk and a rotting hanging post. It was noted that the report from the new contractor was clear and professional and better than the previous contractor. It was noted that there was still no progress with regard to the asset transfer of Moors Meadow to the parish council. It was resolved that the Clerk would provide the history to Cllr. Newman, and that he would lend his weight to the argument that Herefordshire council should progress this transfer, as they had previously agreed to do.

(c) **Highways and footpaths** - Council considered whether there were any urgent new matters for consideration. It was noted that around 50% of the potholes on Coppett Hill had been filled and that the water issues on the B4229 appeared to have been resolved by the clearing of a drain, though the resulting road surface issues were yet to be dealt with. **It was resolved** that the issue of the blocked drain on Shop Lane (reported previously) would be reported again.

(d) **Review of Standing Orders, Financial Regulations & Risk Assessments** The Clerk had provided draft copies of amended Standing Orders and Financial Regulations. It was agreed that these would be considered at the July meeting, along with the Risk Assessments.

### CARRY FORWARD

(e) **Prory Education** – Cllr. Mrs Watson provided a brief update, following a meeting with the manager. She advised that the residence (formerly known as Solutions) provided for 9-18 year olds, and that there are currently 4 people in residence, aged 12-17. There are three teams of three people managing the unit and there are currently no issues. It was noted that the parish council used to visit every three months, but it was agreed that this was not necessary at the present time. **It was resolved** that the parish council would visit once a year unless issues require more frequent meetings.

## 6. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) **HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL – all noted by council**

- Information relating to an amendment to the HCC Code of Conduct
- Link to Dementia-friendly rural communities guide on the web site, for Dementia Action week
- Information relating to the Armed Forces Covenant Fund for grants to purchase remembrance silhouettes to mark the centenary of the end of World War 1 – applications by 30<sup>th</sup> June.

### CARRY FORWARD - Silhouettes

(b) **Seafarers UK** – request for councils to fly the Red Ensign on Merchant Navy Day on 3<sup>rd</sup> September, to raise awareness of our island nation's reliance on seafarers and shipping. **It was resolved** that the council would purchase and raise a flag at a cost of £28.00, subject to the agreement of the village hall to use the flag pole, as a Section 137 purchase to improve community spirit and cohesion.

### CARRY FORWARD – July meeting

(c) **MISCELLANEOUS** - Reopen the Black Bridge – newsletter Spring 2018. It was noted that the next meeting of the steering group would be held on 4<sup>th</sup> July at the Jolly Colliers and that they were still awaiting the lottery grant decision.

## 7. FINANCE

|     |                                                                                               |   |               |     |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---------------|-----|
| (a) | <b>Statement of Accounts (after paying May expenses and June wages)</b>                       |   |               |     |
|     | Treasurers Account                                                                            | £ | 18,557.30     |     |
|     | Petty Cash                                                                                    | £ | 12.19         |     |
| (b) | <b>Grant Applications under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972</b>                  |   |               |     |
|     | St Giles Church – towards cost of maintenance of churchyard                                   | £ | Not specified | 675 |
|     | <b>It was resolved</b> that a contribution of £350.00 be provided and the cheque was written. |   |               |     |

|            |                                                                                               |   |          |     |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|----------|-----|
| <b>(c)</b> | <b>Un-cleared cheques as at 25/04/18 excluding May expenditure</b>                            |   |          |     |
|            | Miss A Jones (Clerk's expenses) February chq (lost)                                           | £ | 21.96    |     |
|            | A Fletcher                                                                                    | £ | 60.00    |     |
| <b>(d)</b> | <b>Adverse variance to budget (2018/19) - none</b>                                            |   |          |     |
| <b>(e)</b> | <b>Cheques for Payment</b>                                                                    |   |          |     |
|            | Miss A Jones (Clerk's expenses – travel to audit and ink cartridges)                          | £ | 80.49    | 674 |
| <b>(f)</b> | <b>Other Payments - Clerk's wages and office allowance (28<sup>th</sup> June 2018 – s/o).</b> | £ | 316.21   |     |
| <b>(g)</b> | <b>Income Received</b>                                                                        |   |          |     |
|            | HMRC (VAT refund – including NDP VAT refunds) – actually received April                       | £ | 1,930.22 |     |

**(h) Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2017/18**

- (i) Council to receive and approve the Annual Internal Audit Report – The Clerk advised that the although the auditor had completed the appropriate page of the AGAR, he had neglected to send out the formal audit report. This had been chased and should be available for review at the July meeting.

**CARRY FORWARD – July Meeting**

- (ii) Council noted that the Exercise of Elector's Rights notice has been displayed and the accounting documents have been passed to the chairman as the contact point for the period.

**8. INFORMATION SHARE – NOT REQUIRING FORMAL DISCUSSION / DECISIONS / SPEND**

The Chairman voiced his disappointment at the recent graffiti on the wall in front of what used to be Jollys. All agreed that they did not want such behaviour in the parish and that all residents should keep an eye out for anyone doing this sort of thing.

**9. ITEMS FOR NEXT / FUTURE MEETINGS**

- Telephone kiosk (missing) – Clerk to investigate whether they could purchase a kiosk from Marstow and relocate to Goodrich.
- Cheque for HMRC

**10. NEXT MEETING**

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2018.

Meeting ended at 21.00 hrs

**Certified as an accurate record of the proceedings of the meetings of Goodrich & Welsh Bicknor Group Parish Council held on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2018.**

**Signed :**

**Date :**

**Chairman**