

Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of
GOODRICH & WELSH BICKNOR GROUP PARISH COUNCIL
THURSDAY 5TH DECEMBER 2019 at 19.30 hrs
at Goodrich Village Hall

Attendees: Cllrs. Nigel Roper, Ken Gort, Lance Harbord, Robin Hulse, Stephen Phillips, Martin Rowberry, Mrs Sian Watson

Present: 4 members of the public, Cllr. Mrs Yolande Watson (Ward councillor), Miss A Jones (Clerk)

1. MEMBERS' INTERESTS RELATING TO ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA – None, as the planning application for Cllr. Watson had already been determined and therefore would not be discussed later in the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES – Cllr. Mrs Lorna Vaughan

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

The issue of water on the B4229 in the vicinity of the sewage treatment works, was raised by a resident, along with the two accidents that had occurred on the road recently, one involved a car aquaplaning at this location. It was thought that there is a spring that starts in the woodland and goes under the track at the sewage treatment plant and then should go under the road via a pipe but that the pipe was not cleared by Balfour Beatty when they jetted the gullies. He also raised the issue of parking at the school. He was concerned that people parked very dangerously in order to get close to the school, even though safer parking was available further away. It was noted that the Police view is that parking generally acts as traffic calming, but that the parking around the school presented a visibility issue as it forced cars onto the wrong side of the road on a blind corner.

Cllr. Yolande Watson advised that she had met with the Head of Planning regarding the S106 for the school and that she had been advised that "the money was there but the parish had not requested it". The Clerk advised that she had specifically asked what the procedure was to obtain the funds, within the earlier letter of complaint, and that she had still received no reply to that letter. Cllr. Watson advised that Yvonne Coleman (Officer) and Kevin Bishop (Head of Planning) had agreed to meet with the parish council and Cllr. Phillips said that he was available for such a meeting. Cllr. Watson also advised that she had been providing the "Your Voice Matters" sessions with local school children and that this had raised a number of concerns including the lack of safe routes to school, and that the parish council would likely receive a letter from the school on this matter in due course.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETINGS OF 7TH NOVEMBER 2019.

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting on 7th November were an accurate record of the meeting, and they were duly signed by the Chairman

4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS – Council considered the following applications;

(a) Applications Received

193866/RM Land at The Pippins, Goodrich

Application for approval of reserved matters (Appearance & Landscaping) following outline approval 163051 (Site for proposed new bungalow)

It was resolved that the council had no objection

P193976/AM Land opposite Dean Swift Close Goodrich Cross Goodrich Nr Ross-on-Wye

Non-material amendment to permission 181255 (Proposed erection of one cottage, one bungalow and garages. Construction of two vehicular accesses and associated works) - amendments to the layout and landscaping.

This application had already been determined by Herefordshire Council and the Clerk had been advised that as it was a non-material amendment, no comment from the parish council was required.

P190465/FH & P190466/L Rocklands House, Goodrich

Installation of a 6ft deer fence, panel fencing and electrically operated gates. Re-consultation – amended documents.

It was resolved that the council had no comment on this application

(b) Applications – Decisions – none advised

5. NEW ITEMS

(a) Highways and footpaths

1. Council considered any urgent new matters for consideration and **it was resolved** that the Clerk would raise the following:
 - The blocked drainage pipe under the road by the sewage treatment plant

- Junction where Castle Lane meets the two roads – fallen / missing tarmac from a previous repair, causing dangerous trip hazard for pedestrians
 - Very large pothole (among many others) outside the Bivia Meadow development
 - Clerk to write to Balfour Beatty to ask why the gullies were jetted but the sumps were not emptied, so the water still has nowhere to go.
 - Although the salt bins had not been used since they were supposedly filled previously, a number of them are currently low on salt. Clerk to ask Balfour Beatty when they will be filled – particularly as there have already been some very hard frosts and ice on sheltered roads.
2. Council to received updates on matters already raised, and **it was resolved** that the Clerk would write to Balfour Beatty to find out exactly what had been done regarding the tree by the school as it had been notified as being “fixed” but it was unclear what, if anything had actually been done.
 3. Council received an update from Cllr. Phillips regarding advice received on road safety within the parish. He and Cllr. Hulse had inspected a number of problem areas, but not all, with Kevin Williams. It is a lengthy process to request changes, and the parish council needs to develop a strategy detailing what is required, and the reasons why, including any relevant sections of the NDP. He advised that he and Robin would make a start on this and report back to the PC. He also advised that Walford PC had invited Goodrich PC to attend their meeting as they are currently progressing similar activity, and that he and Robin would be taking them up on this offer the following Monday.

(b) Greenspace - Maintenance – council to receive update on proposed scope of works and possible contractors and agree any necessary actions to progress this matter.

CARRY FORWARD

(c) British Telecommunications – confirmation of offer to sell the kiosk at Dean Swift Close to the parish council had been received from BT Payphones and a contract of sale provided so that the PC can progress the matter. Council had been provided with the contact in advance of the meeting so that they could appraise themselves of the responsibilities and potential future costs that could happen, including upgrading the electrical supply, the need to have permission to connect anything to the electrical supply, the potential need to take over the cost of electricity supply, maintenance etc.. It was resolved that the council understood and accepted the ongoing responsibilities and potential costs and that they should go ahead with purchasing the kiosk at a cost of £1.00, from BT Payphones and the Chairman signed the contract accordingly.

(d) Defibrillator(s)

- 1 Council considered any new matters for consideration, including whether the keypad is working properly. Cllr. Phillips advised that he had tried the keypad several times and that it seemed to be fine. No other actions were considered necessary.
- 2 Council noted that only two people had asked to attend the training session that had been arranged for December and that it had therefore been cancelled. It was also noted that a considerable number of people had attended the sessions arranged by the Choir. **It was resolved** that this would be revisited in the Spring with a view to arranging a training session at that time.

(e) Castle Lane drainage / maintenance responsibilities – Cllr. Roper to provide update if available.

CARRY FORWARD

(f) Fly Tipping on Private Land – council to consider correspondence that took place over the summer, and any reply from HCC and agree whether any further action is necessary at this time.

6. FINANCE

(a) Statement of Accounts (after paying November expenses & December wages)		
Treasurers Account	£	23,303.15
Petty Cash	£	12.19
(b) Grant Applications under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972		
None		
(c) Un-cleared cheques as at 30/10/19 (excludes November cheques)		
Miss A Jones (Clerk's expenses)	£	10.40
Miss A Jones (Clerk's expenses)	£	8.62
HWCFR Ross-on-Wye (replacement parts for defibrillator)	£	111.49
(d) Adverse variance to budget (2019/20)		
Audit Fees (price increase)	£	10.00
Misc. Office (land registry fees)	£	11.16

(e) Cheques for Payment			
BT Payphones (adoption of Dean Swift Close kiosk)	£	1.00	???
(f) Other Payments - Clerk's wages and office allowance (28th Dec 2019 – s/o).	£	331.94	
(g) Income Received - None	£		

(h) Budget – council consider the final draft and agree Precept for 2020/21. The Clerk advised that she had not been able to allow the correct pay rate for herself as the pay award had not yet been agreed between the LGA and Central Government.

Resolution : That the budget for 2020/21, as prepared, be approved and adopted

Proposed : Cllr. Mrs Sian Watson

Seconded : Cllr. Robin Hulse

Voting : All in favour

Resolution : That the Precept for 2020/21 remain unchanged, at £8979.00

Proposed : Cllr. Robin Hulse

Seconded : Cllr. Mrs Sian Watson

Voting : All in favour

7. **CORRESPONDENCE – GENERAL – council noted – no actions necessary**

(a) Herefordshire Council

1. Advice that those who agreed to adopt a 'phone box will hear direct from BT in due course.
2. Offer of a one-off supply of salt. Council to note that arrangements have been made for it to be delivered to the parish.
3. Election timetable
4. Assistive Technologies to enable people to live in their own homes longer – Free talks for community groups available upon request.

(b) Ward Cllr. Yolande Watson

1. Link to an article on grant scheme for planting trees
2. HCC Leader's Newsletter

(c) Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government – response to the parish council's letter raising concerns about HCC's decision to cease work on new road infrastructure.

(d) Department for Transport – response to the parish council's letter raising concerns about HCC's decision to cease work on new road infrastructure.

(e) HALC – information from the annual conference including the annual review of the Armed Forces Covenant Partnership and the "Talk Community" presentation by Stephen Vickers (Director of Adults and Communities HCC)

8. **CORRESPONDENCE – Reports and consultations – Council noted – no actions necessary**

(a) Herefordshire Council - Summary results for Parish Summit – 20 September 2019

(b) Wye Valley AONB – Management Plan 2020-2025 – consultation runs until 6th January 2020.

9. **Meetings, Seminars and training – council noted – no actions necessary**

Wednesday 11th December - Public Consultation Event for the Draft Wye Valley AONB Management Plan 2020-2025, at Ross Larruperez Centre (Music Room on right of main entrance) 3pm – 7pm

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

Cllr. Hulse advised that the PCSO was still keen to arrange an information event, potentially to include the fire service also, he and Cllr. Gort would liaise to arrange something in the village hall.

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

- Model Financial Regulations – to be reviewed and amended as necessary
- Old School Development – S106 payment
- Additional Notice Board
- Bee keeping in the parish

12. NEXT MEETING - Thursday 6th February 2020

The Chairman wished everyone a happy Christmas

Meeting ended at 20.39 hrs

Certified as an accurate record of the proceedings of the meetings of Goodrich & Welsh Bicknor Group Parish Council held on 5th December 2019.

Signed :

Date :

Chairman

MINUTES