

Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of
GOODRICH & WELSH BICKNOR GROUP PARISH COUNCIL
THURSDAY 7TH NOVEMBER 2019 at 19.30 hrs
at Goodrich Village Hall

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

Present: 2 members of the public, Cllr. Mrs Yolande Watson (Ward councillor), Miss A Jones (Clerk)

1. MEMBERS' INTERESTS RELATING TO ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA – None declared

2. APOLOGIES – None

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

A resident asked about the possibility of keeping bees on the Greenspace area. It was noted that various initiatives were being progressed locally to increase bee-keeping. Another resident voiced concerns about them being on public land and close to the play area, in case children get stung. Two of the councillors were happy to have them on their own land and agreed to discuss with the resident after the meeting.

Cllr. Mrs Yolande Watson briefly discussed Gilpin 2020 (information provided to the Clerk that evening). The Clerk would share the information and further discussion could take place at the December meeting if required.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETINGS OF 3RD OCTOBER 2019.

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting on 3rd October were an accurate record of the meeting, and they were duly signed by the Chairman

4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS – All notes by council, no actions necessary

(a) Applications Received - none

(b) Applications – Decisions - none

(c) Applications - Other

193082 Pantry Cottage, Goodrich – Proposed alterations and extensions to create a stairwell and bedroom and bathroom
Application Withdrawn

5. NEW ITEMS

(a) Highways and footpaths

1. Council considered any urgent new matters and **it was resolved** that the B4229 / C1258 junction (cars leaving the road and lack of visibility mirror for egress from Rocklands) and speed of traffic in the vicinity of the dry arch bridge (recent accident) be added to Cllr. Phillips's list of road safety matters for discussion with Balfour Beatty.
2. Council received updates on matters already raised, and it was noted that BB had advised that they were inspecting the tree by the school
3. Council considered an update from Cllr. Hulse regarding road safety within the parish. PCSC Simon Hall had advised that they are not responsible for introducing speed limits, only enforcing them and advising on appropriateness. A speed survey will be arranged and they will ask whether a speed sign is available on a loan basis. He was happy to meet local community groups and could arrange a general community information event, to involve Police, fire safety etc. It was noted that there may be a higher than usual Police presence due to an increase in poaching locally.

(b) Old School Development – S106 payment – response from HCC still awaited

CARRY FORWARD

(c) Greenspace

1. Maintenance – update on a proposed scope of works and possible contractors awaited.

CARRY FORWARD – Cllr. Hulse to progress when time and contractor availability permits.

2. Council were to consider any available update regarding HCC refusing to transfer the asset to the PC despite previously agreeing to do so. The Clerk had still not received a reply. **It was resolved** that the Clerk would write to the school and suggest that they may also want to pursue the matter with HCC

CARRY FORWARD

(d) Defibrillator(s)

1. Council considered whether to enter into a loan agreement for an additional defibrillator, subject to finalizing a suitable location.

Resolution : That the council agree, in principle, to borrow a defibrillator subject to the necessary loan agreement, subject to a suitable location being confirmed

Proposed : Cllr. Stephen Phillips

Seconded : Cllr. Robin Hulse

Voting : 7 in favour, 1 against

Resolution passed by majority vote.

It was noted that the location not likely to be confirmed until the telephone kiosk adoption was progressed.

2. Council discussed defibrillator training and **it was resolved** that the Clerk would advertise a training event to be held on 5th December, to be run in the village hall (room hire FOC)

(e) Church support - Council considered an update from the Clerk and further advice provided by HALC. It was agreed that based on current legal advice, it would not be possible for the parish council to financially assist the church directly and the council was not aware of anything being done by the church for the benefit of residents that the parish council could assist with at this time. **It was resolved** that the Clerk should write to the Church explaining the situation.

(f) Castle Lane drainage / maintenance responsibilities – Cllr. Roper was still awaiting an update from Mr Trafford-Roberts.

CARRY FORWARD

(g) Fly Tipping on Private Land – council noted that HCC has advised that there are very few instances of fly tipping on private land in Herefordshire and that it therefore could not be compared to other authorities. They were however discussing the matter with the Police to see whether the use of proceeds of crime funds could be accessed.

CARRY FORWARD

(h) Remembrance Day – **It was resolved** that the council make a donation of £40.00 towards the provision of a poppy wreath for remembrance day. **It was resolved** that the Clerk would advise RBL that the council would like the wreath provided annually.

(i) Additional Notice Board – Council to consider provision and siting once land ownership / permission is confirmed

CARRY FORWARD – once reply on land ownership received

(j) Community Support – Clerk provided the leaflets for distribution around the parish. She advised that the notice would be in the December edition of the Border News so they should be delivered early December. **It was resolved** that Cllr. Gort would liaise with the Border News distributors and then arrange any other leaflets with other councillors as necessary.

(k) NDP – Council were to consider a request to take part in online research – Cllr. Gort lead the discussion and provided a brief update from the recent HCC Core Strategy and DNP Workshop evening to inform the discussion. The National Planning Policy Framework requires that the Core Strategy should be reviewed every 5 years, and the review is expected to take 2-3 years. Public consultation is due to take place in 2020. HCC previously offered to build significantly more housing than was required by National Government, the reason for this has not been provided by HCC. The new central government calculation for new housing has now changed. Detailed NDPs (like G&WBPC's) will continue to carry considerable weight beyond 2 years but earlier NDPs that were developed with a "light touch" approach are likely to not be valid for the longer period. Additional issues could arise as a result of planning applications that are not being processed in the Lugg catchment area due to nutrient levels in the river so development is pretty much halted in that area. The issue does not currently affect the Wye but the situation is being monitored. This could affect the ability of HC to deliver the level of housing in the county currently required.

All councillors agreed that the potential need for PCs to review and even develop new NDPs after such a short time was unworkable and unreasonable. **It was resolved** that Cllr. Gort would complete the online research survey detailing the issues and concerns of the parish council as well as the practical knowledge that he had of the process and that Cllr. Gort would attend future Core Strategy/NDP meetings keeping the council apprised.

(l) Smartwater – The Clerk advised that she had not received any contact regarding the initiative. **It was resolved** that no further action would be taken on this matter due to lack of interest.

6. FINANCE

(a)	Statement of Accounts (after paying October expenses & November	
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	wages)		
	Treasurers Account	£	23,636.09
	Petty Cash	£	12.19
(b)	Grant Applications under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972		
	None		
(c)	Un-cleared cheques as at 30/09/19 (excludes October cheques)		
	Miss A Jones (Clerk's expenses)	£	10.40
	Miss A Jones (Clerk's expenses)	£	8.62
	Herefordshire Council (Moors Meadow rent)	£	10.00
(d)	Adverse variance to budget (2019/20)		
	Audit Fees (price increase)	£	10.00
	Misc. Office (land registry fees)	£	11.16
(e)	Cheques for Payment		
	Royal British Legion (wreath donation)	£	40.00
	Miss A Jones (ink cartridges, paper)	£	103.31
(f)	Other Payments - Clerk's wages and office allowance (28th Nov 2019 – s/o).	£	331.94
(g)	Income Received - HPC contribution towards office 365	£	33.33

(h) Budget – The council considered the second draft budget and **it was resolved** that it be brought back at the December meeting when the Clerk's wages would be confirmed after any advice regarding the pay local government pay increase.

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

- (a) Herefordshire Council
1. Statements relating to the Hereford Transport Package and South Wye Transport Package
 2. Current Development in the River Lugg Catchment Area – Position Statement
 3. Confirmation that the Review of Polling Districts, Polling Places and Polling Stations has been completed and the approved documents are now available to view.

8. CORRESPONDENCE – Reports and consultations – council noted, no actions necessary

- (a) Police and Crime Commissioner – Draft Rural Crime Strategy – consultation runs until 8th November
- (b) Wye Valley AONB – Management Plan 2020-2025 – consultation runs until 6th January 2020.

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

Monday 18th November – Herefordshire Green Network – workshop event for councillors to talk to local experts about the implications of becoming a zero carbon community.

Saturday 23rd November – HALC – Conference and AGM. 9.30am – 15.00pm

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

Cllr. Hulse advised that his meeting with the Police had also highlighted the very low numbers of Police officers now present around the county. He also advised that the war memorial had been lit for the remembrance period and the lights would be removed at the end of November. He had also donated some Christmas lights and Cllr. Gort confirmed that they could be placed in the village hall trees (battery operated)

11. ITEMS FOR NEXT / FUTURE MEETINGS

- Model Financial Regulations – to be reviewed and amended as necessary

12. NEXT MEETING - Thursday 5th December

Meeting ended at 21.15 hrs

Certified as an accurate record of the proceedings of the meetings of Goodrich & Welsh Bicknor Group Parish Council held on 7th November 2019.

Signed :

Date :

MINUTES