

HAMPTON BISHOP PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held on
Wednesday 27th January 2021 at 7.00 pm via Zoom**

Present:

Councillors: Steve Hunt (Chairman), Mark Frankland, Julia Pearson, Chris Plant, Jamie Rogers, Susan Marr & Val Watson.

In attendance: Lynda Wilcox ... Parish Clerk. Six members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence ... There were none.

2. Declarations of interest & written requests for dispensation

- 2.1 As Chairman of the Villagers' Association, Val Watson declared a DPI (Disclosable Pecuniary Interest) in items 7 and 8.1.1.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting ... 26th November 2020.

It was RESOLVED to adopt the minutes as a true record.

- 3.1 It was suggested that hyperlinks could be included for future references to material on the website.

4. Flooding/Drainage/Ditch Issues

- 4.1 The Chairman gave an update and action was considered on the following:
- 4.1.1 Parish Council response to riparian ownership aspects of open ditches and culverts:
- a) Because of the continuing good work of the Flood Mitigation Group and local farmers in clearing out their ponds, flooding had not been a major problem during recent heavy rain.
 - b) Jamie Rogers reported that there were still some problems at Daggy Powell's Lane and near the Lawns.
 - c) It was RESOLVED to engage a contractor who had offered to undertake some free initial investigative work alongside the road in the vicinity of The Chimneys .
- 4.1.2 Flood alleviation contracts awarded by parish council under clerk's delegated powers:
- a) Work on the Willow trees in the Parish Orchard had been undertaken that morning.
 - b) The Orchard hedges alongside the roadside ditch would be cut back in the near future.
- 4.1.3 Latest information from the Environment Agency (EA):
- a) The Chairman had held a couple of meetings with the EA during January and been informed that the ARUP report was not yet ready.
 - b) The footpath along the Stank by the Bunch of Carrots had been shut to the public because walkers were destroying the newly grassed area.
 - c) The flood flaps were being monitored and once the river water levels had dropped, efforts would be made to improve the seals.
- 4.1.4 Repairs to Mordiford Bridge:
- a) Repairs to cracks and mortar joints were scheduled to be undertaken before the end of March and the Chairman thanked the Ward Councillor for his support in the matter.
 - b) Balfour Beatty would be claiming costs against Tesco, due to the damage caused by their lorry.
 - c) If water levels rose to a problem level before the repairs, the road would be closed and sandbagged to protect the bridge.

5. Open Session

- 5.1 Ward Councillor John Hardwick's brief verbal report included:
 - 5.1.1 Herefordshire Council was undertaking a consultation on waste disposal, with a closing date of 8th February – residents were urged to participate.
 - 5.1.2 The Chief Executive was due to retire in mid-February and Paul Walker from Harrow had been appointed to the role.
- 5.2 Views of local residents on parish matters:
 - 5.2.1 In response to a query about hedge removal on the lane to Red Bank, Jamie Rogers commented that there had been no removal, just pruning.
 - 5.2.2 A local resident was pleased to hear that work was continuing on the Wye Stank but queried what was happening with the Lugg Stank. The Chairman replied that over a lengthy period of time, contractors had been building up the Lugg Stank but the aesthetics were not yet complete. It was hoped that the work would be finalised when the weather improved.
 - 5.2.3 In response to a query about debris left in the ditch following tree works by Acer, Jamie Rogers offered to look into the matter.

6. B4224 Strategy Group

Mark Frankland had attended the meeting held on 16th December and reported that matters were progressing well.

It was noted that both SIDs were not in operation and Mark Frankland reported that there appeared to be an issue with the SIDs which he and the Chairman would endeavour to solve in the near future.

In response to Susan Marr's query about when the SID data might be available to enable discussion with Herefordshire Council on the benefit of leaving the SIDs on permanently, Mark Frankland commented that he was working on it.

In accordance with her DPI declaration above, Val Watson left the meeting.

7. Village Hall

The Clerk reported that she had held an informal meeting with representatives from the Village Hall to discuss their lease with the Parish Council. It was RESOLVED to set up a Working Group to consider all aspects of the current lease and whether a new lease would be beneficial to both parties. To enable the discussions to go ahead, the Clerk would endeavour to locate a map depicting the boundaries of the land in question.

It was noted that the Village Hall equipment was being stored in the parish council garage, along with fete equipment and the church mower. There was support for the future storage of Village Hall flood rescue equipment. It was suggested that a numbered access pad on the wall would be preferable to the current key access via the keyholder, Mark Frankland.

8. Finance

- 8.1 It was RESOLVED to adopt the Finance Working Group's draft budget which included:
 - 8.1.1 Support for the Village Hall & printing of Village Scene.
 - 8.1.2 Increased funds for flood alleviation work.
- 8.2 Precept for the financial year 2021-2022 ... it was RESOLVED to retain the precept at the current level of £17,500.00.
- 8.3 It was RESOLVED to make the following payments:
 - 8.3.1 Clerk's salary for December & January.
 - 8.3.2 Autela Payroll – 3rd quarter £51.25.
 - 8.3.3 Annual data protection fee ... £40.00.

Val Watson returned to the meeting.

9. Planning

- 9.1 It was RESOLVED to support the following applications which would be determined by Herefordshire Council:
 - 9.1.1 Application 204102 ... Land adjacent to Green Gables. Proposed dwelling and garage with new access and associated works.
 - 9.1.2 Application 204361 – 1 Pippin Close. T1 reduce variegated Acer by 2m. T2 Salix Pendula – remove dead wood, cut back from road and reduce crown by 2m.
- 9.2 Members noted the following permissions granted by Herefordshire Council
 - 9.2.1 Application 203726 ...Serene Cottage ... Proposed first floor extension to garage to form annexe accommodation ancillary to the main dwelling.
 - 9.2.2 Application 203374 ...Stepaside ... Proposed Ash tree removal due to being too large for surroundings (imposing on both the garden and the walkway on the roadside).
 - 9.2.3 Application 204439 ... Old Rectory Cottage, Rectory Road ... T1: pear small – thin overall crown T2: Apple – reduce the sucker growth back to original pruning points and remove all suckers from inner crown T3: Victoria Plum – reduce overall crown by 1-2m and prune suckers T4: Apple small – lightprune. T5: Plum – reduce/balance the crown and prune suckers. T6: Bay – reduce the top down to leave at approx. height of fence post. Trim sides. T7: Holly – reduce the sides (not top) by approx. height of fence post. Trim sides. T7: Holly – reduce the sides (not top) by approx. half a metre to balance and leave in good shape. T8: Unknown – reduce the crown down to leave at approx. 3-4ft in height.

10. Footpaths ... Mark Frankland reported that the Footpaths Officer had received no reports of any problems.

11. Items raised for next meeting to be held on Wednesday 24th March 2021:

- 11.1 Community Speed Watch.
- 11.2 Adoption of Investment Policy and consideration of where to invest reserves.
- 11.3 Flood flaps at Mordiford Bridge.
- 11.4 SID data.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.05 pm

SIGNED DATE