

HAMPTON BISHOP PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held via Zoom on
Wednesday 24th March 2021

Present:

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

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

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Julia Pearson.
2. **Declarations of interest & written requests for dispensation ...** There were none.
3. **Minutes of the previous meeting ...** 27th January 2021.
 - 3.1 The minutes were agreed as a true record.
4. **Flooding/Drainage/Ditch Issues**
 - 4.1 Chairman's update and action agreed:
 - 4.1.1 It was understood that the Environment Agency (EA) had raised the Lugg Stank by about one foot, but it had taken longer than anticipated due to an initial problem with accessing appropriate soil. In response to concern raised by a local resident about holes in the hessian, possibly from horses being ridden over the area, the Chairman offered to raise the matter with the EA.
 - 4.1.2 Jamie Rogers was liaising with contractors concerning ditch work in the vicinity of The Haven.
 - 4.1.3 Local residents were encouraged to contact the parish council if they became aware of any drainage problems within the parish.
 - 4.2 Effectiveness of flood flaps at Mordiford Bridge ... It was RESOLVED that the Chairman would have a site meeting with Jamie Rogers to discuss the flaps.
 - 4.3 It was noted that the bridge had been repaired, but not the mortar joints.
5. **Open Session**
 - 5.1 Ward Councillor John Hardwick gave a brief verbal report, including:
 - 5.1.1 Council tax would be increased by 4.99% for 2021/2022.
 - 5.1.2 The new Chief Executive would start work at the beginning of May.
 - 5.1.3 The B4224 at Fownhope should be open again on Friday.
 - 5.1.4 High phosphate levels had resulted in zero new build in some county areas.
 - 5.2 Items raised by local residents on parish matters, included:
 - 5.2.1 Concern was expressed at the level of clearance work undertaken in the parish orchard, as well as the lack of advance communication with residents adjoining the site. The Chairman took on board the comments and suggested a site meeting prior to further discussion at the next meeting.
 - 5.2.2 In response to a query about water not draining away from the ditch in the vicinity of Daggy Powell's Lane and around the corner towards the village hall entrance, Jamie Rogers commented that this ditch was furthest away from the drain and flow would hopefully improve following work undertaken by Nick Layton (a new culvert in the field below Llanfair Villas).
 - 5.2.3 A local resident suggested a circle of flowering trees on raised parish council land at the entrance to the village hall. The matter would be put on the next agenda.
 - 5.2.4 A resident raised a problem with the swing gate at the entrance to the paddock in the vicinity of The Old Rectory.

- 6. Village Hall Lease Working Group ...** It was noted that the Clerk had held a Zoom meeting with two representatives from the Village Hall and discussed initial aspects of a possible new lease or clarification on who does what on a supplementary document. The clerk would be ascertaining whether the parish council solicitors held a site map for the area.

7. Finance

- 7.1 Bank balances were noted as: Reserves £83,343.93. Current £500.
- 7.2 It was RESOLVED to make the following payments:
 - 7.2.1 Annual subscription to HALC for 2021-2022 ... £497.78 + £99.56 VAT.
 - 7.2.2 Clerk's salary for February and March.
- 7.3 Consideration of a parish council reserves policy and investment of reserves was postponed until the next meeting.

8. Planning

- 8.1 Planning permissions granted by Herefordshire Council for works allowed to trees within a Conservation Area were noted as:
 - 8.1.1 Application 210354 Cider Mill House, Whitehall Road. Proposed works to the large Fir tree causes extensive shade and blocks out a lot of sunlight, the Maple has a large bough damaging the fence and needs to be removed to prevent further damage and requires reducing in size.
 - 8.1.2 Application 210140 Redstrake Orchard, Rectory Road. Trees 1-3 are all Maples - they are to be pollarded to previously established knuckles as visible in the photographs. Tree 4 is a Weeping Birch that has one odd branch that has started growing vertically. This branch visible in the photo is to be removed to maintain the overall weeping look of the tree.
 - 8.1.3 Application P204361/K, 1 Pippin Close. T1 reduce variegated Acer by 2m – T2 Salix Pendula, remove dead wood, cut back from road and reduce crown by 2m.
- 8.2 The following planning consultation for a prior approval determination for a change of use which, under new legislation does not require a response, was noted:
 - 8.2.1 Consultation 210409 Court Farm, Rectory Road. Application to determine if prior approval is required for change of use of an agricultural building to flexible commercial use (B1 office).
- 8.3 Noted: An update on Herefordshire Council's Position Statement on Habitat Regulation Assessments (HRA) of Neighbourhood Development Plans within the River Lugg hydrological catchment area.

- 9. Parish Orchard ...** It was RESOLVED to discuss a residents' proposal for a 'Woodland Garden Scheme' at the next meeting.

10. Parish Maintenance Contractor

- 10.1 Payment for a kissing gate repair - £73.52 had been authorised by delegated power.
- 10.2 It was RESOLVED to offer the 2021/2022 Parish Maintenance Contract to Suzie Dyer, noting that the prices would be increased slightly due to rising fuel costs.

11. B4224 Strategy Group

- 11.1 The clerk was awaiting feedback on the Community Speed Watch scheme.
- 11.2 It was noted that the SID data had not yet been downloaded due to a minor technical problem with the fuse. This had now been resolved and hopefully data would soon be available to enable a case to be prepared for the SIDs to be on permanently.

- 12. Play Area ...** It was RESOLVED to book an annual inspection via Francis White.

13. Village Scene ... It was RESOLVED that the clerk would submit a regular parish council report to Village Scene.

14. Footpaths Officer ... On behalf of the Footpaths Officer, Mark Franklin reported on an initiative by the Ramblers Association 'Don't lose your way' which aimed to seek and safeguard lost footpaths for the future.

15. Items raised for next meeting to be held on Wednesday 26th May 202:

15.1 Reserves Policy.

15.2 Re-location of milepost.

SIGNED DATE