

13/2023

HAMPTON BISHOP PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a Parish Council meeting held on
Tuesday 18th July 2023 at 19.00 in the Village Hall

Present

Councillors: Steve Hunt (Chair), Jamie Rogers (Vice Chair) & James White.

In attendance

Parish Clerk ... Lynda Wilcox. Ward Councillor ... Graham Biggs. West Mercia Police ... PCSO Christina Howard. Seven local residents.

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Julia Pearson.
2. **Declarations of interest & written requests for dispensation:** There were none.
3. **Co-option to fill current vacancies following the election process.**
 - 3.1 It was RESOLVED to co-opt Brendyn Rossouw who was unable to attend the meeting due to business commitments.
4. **Minutes of the previous meeting held on 16th May.**
 - 4.1 It was RESOLVED to adopt the minutes which were signed by the Chair with one amendment to those present: Julia Pearson to replace Julia Rogers.
5. **Open Session:**
 - 5.1 A brief verbal report from Ward Councillor, Graham Biggs, included:
 - 5.1.1 Graham had been given the portfolio of Cabinet Member for Economy & Growth.
 - 5.1.2 The move of the library to Maylord Orchard had been paused, following a proposal to locate it in the Shire Hall instead. Discussion would take place at Thursday's Cabinet Meeting and would then move on to Full Council in October.
 - 5.1.3 Discovered local Saxon treasure was to be moved to the Museum.
 - 5.1.4 Herefordshire Council had leased the old Sports Direct premises to the DWP.
 - 5.1.5 The Council was considering a loan to the Wye Valley Trust to support a new centre to train doctors.
 - 5.1.6 A loan was also being considered for the Herefordshire Group Training Centre, to enable them to build a new facility.
 - 5.1.7 Graham offered interested residents the opportunity to have a tour around the new Shell Store at Rotherwas.

5.2 Views of local residents on parish matters.

- 5.2.1 The occupant of Gable End thanked the Chair and Vice Chair for clearing away a fallen cherry tree on parish council land earlier in the year, which had narrowly missed their fence. They were now concerned that a much taller tree could fall on their property and asked that it be pollarded. The Chair and Vice Chair would have a look at the tree and report back.
- 5.2.2 There was concern about the use of weed killer on the strip of land between the play area and the boundary of the adjacent field. The Clerk would ascertain the exact boundary of PC land to enable discussion on a future hedge or fencing to mark the boundary.
- 5.2.3 It was noted that planning approval had been granted for repairs to Mordiford bridge, but work was unlikely to commence next year, as originally thought, due to a lack of funding.
- 5.2.4 In response to a query about ditching, Jamie Rogers commented that if the ditches required mechanical cleaning out, that would be discussed by the parish council. He had seen nothing to date that had caused him concern but would be undertaking an inspection of ditches in the near future.
- 5.2.5 The Chair had asked Balfour Beatty to remove soil which they had dumped opposite Chimneys.

5.3 PCSO Christina Howard ... West Mercia Police

- 5.3.1 Christina outlined the geographic area she covered as an Officer in the Rural North Safer Neighbourhood Team.
- 5.3.2 There had been three policing incidents over the last three months:
 - a) Altercation between a man and woman near the Bunch of Carrots in May. When Officers arrived, the people had left the vicinity.
 - b) Car being driven erratically in May. The driver passed a breath test but was found not to have insurance.
 - c) Lady bitten on the leg by a dog. The dog owner had been located and the matter was ongoing.
- 5.3.3 Community Speed Watch (CSW) required a minimum of six volunteers who would go out with a speed gun in groups of three (probably once a week) following vetting/training and wearing appropriate clothing. Registration numbers of cars travelling over the speed limit would be recorded and notified to the Police via the CSW Co-ordinator. The Police would send a letter to the offending driver. A driver being caught speeding on three occasions would probably result in them being visited by the Police and their vehicle inspected.
- 5.3.4 The three policing priorities identified by the parish council under agenda item 11, would be logged into the system for the quarter October/November/December:

6. Parish Orchard ... Update and outstanding works.

- 6.1 It was RESOLVED that the parish contractor be requested to site the bird boxes which were being stored at James White's house.
- 6.2 In response to a query about the minor pruning of trees, James offered to have a word with the tree surgeon to ascertain whether a more substantial prune would be appropriate in 18 months' time.
- 6.3 It was noted that the five-year maintenance plan identified twice yearly mowing of the orchard.

7. Joining Herefordshire Council's Lengthsman Scheme.

- 7.1 It was RESOLVED that an expression of interest would be sent to Herefordshire Council.

8. Finance ... Bank balance noted as £90,547.02.

- 8.1 It was RESOLVED to make the following payments:
 - 8.1.1 John Finch Computers: Annual IT Contract plus Microsoft 365 (£70.56).
 - 8.1.2 Clerk's salary June/July.
 - 8.1.3 Annual membership of CPRE ... £60.
 - 8.1.4 Parish Contractor – July payment.
- 8.2 The following payments under Clerk's Delegated Powers were endorsed:
 - 8.2.1 Parish Contractor ... £545 for May & June.
 - 8.2.2 Annual Insurance ... Gallagher ... £454.97.
 - 8.2.3 HMRC underpayment for financial year 2022/23 ... £296.70.
- 8.3 Update on investment of funds with CCLA ... The Clerk was progressing the investment.

9. Planning

- 9.1 It was RESOLVED to support the following application which would be determined by Herefordshire Council:

Application P231815/F Orchard House, Whitehall Road. Proposed variation of condition 2 of planning permission 102562 (Proposed new dwelling & associated garage to allow for the repositioning of the garage).
- 9.2 A 'prior approval' planning permission granted by Herefordshire Council was noted: Application P231829/PA7. The Elms, Church Lane. Prior approval for a general-purpose agricultural storage building.

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- 9.3 A planning permission granted by Herefordshire Council was noted:
Application P231607/K. Sycamore House, Rectory Road. Fell T1 – Ornamental
Cherry Tree in the middle of the back garden. Replace with a small fruit
bearing/edible tree.
- 9.4 A planning refusal by Herefordshire Council was noted:
Applications: P222988/FH & P222989/L. Hampton House, Church Lane. Proposed
conversion of former care home into private dwelling including associated demolition,
repair and building works.

10. Advice on dogs roaming free in the parish.

- 10.1 The Chair had been in touch with a couple of dog owners and would be liaising with
the Police following comments under 5.3.2 above.

11. West Mercia Police ... It was RESOLVED to identify the following three policing priorities
for the parish:

- 11.1 Anti-social behaviour in Daggy Powell's Lane.
11.2 Speeding traffic.
11.3 Thefts from outbuildings.

12. Road Safety

- 12.1 The Clerk gave feedback from a meeting of the B4224 Strategy Group on Monday 5th
June. It was noted that a Western Bypass was again under consideration.
12.2 Setting up a Community Speed Watch Group of at least 6 volunteers ... It was
RESOLVED to seek volunteers to form a Group via Village Scene.

13. Village Hall ... Increased hire charges from November 1st (for advance payment) were noted.

14. Footpaths: The Footpaths Officer gave an update.

- 14.1 It was noted that crops had obstructed a footpath in the vicinity of Braemar Gardens.

15. Date of next scheduled meeting ... Tuesday 19th September 2023.

SIGNED DATE