

WEOBLEY PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Weobley Parish Council Annual Meeting held at Hopelands Village Hall, Weobley, HR4 8SN on Tuesday 24th May 2022 commencing at 7:00pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors L Anderson (Chair), J Simons (Vice Chair), C Breen, P Lloyd, C Mills, C Saunders and H Quinlan (2 Vacancies).

IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk to the Council – Romily Giddens.

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to re-elect Lorraine Anderson as Chairman. Councillor Anderson signed her declaration of acceptance of office and the clerk signed as witness to their signature.

2. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to re-elect John Simons as Vice Chairman. Councillor Simons signed their? declaration of acceptance of office and the clerk signed as witness to their signature.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr A Apps and Cllr J Simons who joined at 8pm (item 10.3).

4. CO-OPTION

Council **NOTED** that there are 2 vacancies on the Council. No applications had been received but interested parties were due to attend the next meeting.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND WRITTEN REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION

Cllr L Anderson and Cllr P Lloyd declared an interest in Village Hall related matters.

6. MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Council Meeting held 26th April 2022 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

7. OPEN SESSION

7.1 Police Report - The Police were not present but responses had been received to questions submitted and were read by the Cllr L Anderson and **NOTED** by the Council:

- The recent retrieval of stolen items from a neighbouring parish was not thought to include items belonging to recent victims within Weobley.
- The Police Surgery held in the Green Bean Café a few months back proved to be very popular. The majority of concerns were not local-focused, but those that were have been dealt with.
- If CCTV is to be considered on the Library/Museum building, it is recommended to research fully due to logistics and compliance with legislation.
- The Police are happy for the Parish Council to place polite parking notices on cars that are parked poorly or inconsiderately around the village and can offer further assistance if required

7.2 Ward Councillor Report – The following written report was received from Ward Cllr Jones and **NOTED** by the Council:

- The Panorama programme looking into the Herefordshire council children's services was screened on the 16th May. This follows the damning report by Judge Keenan which concluded that Herefordshire's Children's Social Service department was not fit for purpose. The Council have been aware that an investigative journalist was looking into period between 2012 and 2019 when serious

flaws took place, which led to this verdict. Although this was a damaging programme for Herefordshire Council, this does seem a widespread problem across the country.

- Hereford Council is looking into the mismanagement of the Link road costs. The budget of £20 million, has more than doubled to £40 million, as a consequence of extra being paid for compulsory purchase of land and no one person was managing the costs. There is now a team in place which will manage these infrastructure projects, to prevent this from occurring again. These type of projects are challenging to budget for, especially with compulsory purchase of land and usually go over budget, but not to this extent.
- The Lengthsman Drainage Grant Scheme have been allocating monies to parish councils. It seems that most parish council applications have received around 50% of what they applied for. This Scheme seems to work well with work being done by the Lengthsman on jobs which Balfour Beatty don't get around to including digging out culverts, clearing ditches and trees which are thought to be more effective than the continuous use of jetting.
- Ambitious plans are in place to convert the Hereford Museum into a state of the art Tourist Attraction Museum once the Library has been relocated into Maylord Orchard. This will cover all three floors showing off all of Hereford artefacts'. Currently only 20% is on display due to limited capacity.
- There was a full council meeting on the 20th May for the AGM. No big changes at the top of the council. Due to the difficulty in finding a new solicitor to head up the Herefordshire council legal team. It was agreed to increase the salary up from £90,000 to £109,000 per annum. Over 75 applicants were looked at for the role and it became clear that the existing salary was well under the going rate to attract a suitable qualified person.
- An extraordinary meeting of the Council was held on the 13th May to discuss Ward Councillor Graham Jones' extended leave of absence. This has now been extended until the 18th of June.

7.3 Local residents – The following issues were raised:

- Council **NOTED** a verbal request from Rev Phillip Harvey to hold the Jubilee Service in the Rose Garden due to work still ongoing to the Church. The Council had no objections.
- Council **NOTED** a request for dog fouling signs from the litter picking team.
- Council **NOTED** a resident's report that tiles were coming loose on the Library/Museum Roof. Council **RESOLVED** to make enquires for someone to look at the roof.

8. FINANCE

8.1 Payment schedule –

Council **RATIFIED** the following payments relating May 2022 as outlined below:

PAYEE	SERVICE	CHEQUE	TOTAL
West Mercia Energy	Library Electricity	DD	£126.45
West Mercia Energy	Back Lane Toilets Electricity	DD	£16.31
West Mercia Energy	Rose Garden Electricity	DD	£14.43
CANCELLED	CANCELLED	1741	-
			£157.19

Council **APPROVED** the payment of accounts relating to May 2022 as outlined below:

PAYEE	SERVICE	CHEQUE	TOTAL
Romily Giddens	Clerk Salary May 2022 (including backdated pay Apr 21 – Apr 22)	Cheque 1750	£414.52
Romily Giddens	Clerk's Expenses May 2022	Cheque 1750	£9.70
Welsh Water	Back Lane Toilets Water Charge (Nov – May)	FPO	£189.04
Weobley Village Hall	Hall Hire Outstanding Invoices	Cheque 1751	£72.00
Playdale Playgrounds Ltd	Play Area Equipment	Cheque 1752	£387.07
C Breen (Amazon)	Replacement Sprayer (PA)	Cheque 1753	£15.99
C Breen (Morrisons)	Fuel for Mower (PA)	Cheque 1753	£30.03
C Breen (Amazon)	Fuel for Strimmer (PA)	Cheque 1753	£38.45
			£1,156.80

Council **NOTED** the current income balance for 2022-23 to date as outlined below:

Date	Name	Details	Precept	Play Area	Interest	Misc	VAT	Total
08/04/2022	Lottery Fund	Skate Park		£1,750				£1,750
19/04/2022	Herefordshire Council	Precept	£18,219.50					£18,219.50
			£18,219.50	£1,750	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£19,969.50

8.2 End-of-year Accounts Balance 2021-22 – The Council **NOTED** that the reconciled balance for 2021-22 was £24,143.32. A full version of the bank reconciliation and cash book can be view on Weobley Parish Council's website.

9. WORKING GROUPS

9.1 Finance Working Group – It was **RESOLVED** that Cllrs Anderson, Apps and Simons would form the Finance Working Group in addition to the Clerk.

9.2 Play Area Working Group – It was **RESOLVED** that Cllrs Apps, Breen, Mills would form the Play Area Working Group in addition to members of the public.

10. PLANNING

10.1 Issues submitting comments – Council **NOTED** that although comments are routinely submitted through Herefordshire Council's online planning portal (at their request), they are not being published to the website. Council **RESOLVED** to begin submitting comments direct to planning officers and requesting confirmation of receipt. Ward Cllr Jones would pass on the Parish Council's concerns to HC Planning Development Leader, Kevin Bishop.

10.2 Planning applications - It was **RESOLVED** to ratify the following comments made on applications to be determined by Herefordshire Council:

APPLICATION: P221127/221129 – Full Householder and Listed Building Consent
SITE: 1 Mill Bank Cottages Weobley Hereford Herefordshire HR4 8SH
DESCRIPTION: Proposed single storey extension to the rear of the property to create a dining/sun room.
COMMENT: The Parish Council had no objections to the earlier application P212062 submitted in June 2021 and subsequently withdrawn. We acknowledge the comments of the Conservation Officer to the earlier application and note that some, but not all, of these amendments appear to have been made. We have no objections to the current application, subject to the views of the Conservation Officer.

APPLICATION: P221123 – Works to Trees in a Conservation Area
SITE: 1 Homleigh Broad Street Weobley Hereford Herefordshire HR4 8SA
DESCRIPTION: T1: Elderberry/Thorn - located within the back garden, fell all trees to leave at ground level, cut all brambles back and crown raise the boundary's fence line. T2: Golden Cypress - fell to ground level.
COMMENT: No objections.

It was **RESOLVED** to make the following comments on applications to be determined by Herefordshire Council:

APPLICATION: P221499 – Works to Trees in a Conservation Area
SITE: Clee View Back Lane Weobley Hereford Herefordshire HR4 8SG
DESCRIPTION: T12 to T20 inclusive; elderly cider apple trees - remove due to poor condition. T22 - small group of young, probably self-sown, trees and shrubs, cherry and hazel, with thin trunks - remove. Works to enable the garden to be developed, better maintained and planted with some productive species in due course.
COMMENT: No objections as long as trees are replanted.

APPLICATION: P221361 – Listed Building Consent
SITE: April Cottage 5 Broad Street Weobley Hereford Herefordshire HR4 8SA
DESCRIPTION: Replacement of existing wooden single glazed units on the rear and side elevations with double glazed units (like for like as close as possible).
COMMENT: No objections.

APPLICATION: P221290 – Listed Building Consent
SITE: Parkfields Church Road Weobley Hereford Herefordshire HR4 8SD

DESCRIPTION: To replace 15 windows and install 1 new window
COMMENT: No objections.

APPLICATION: P221393 – Full Householder

SITE: Clee View Back Lane Weobley Hereford Herefordshire HR4 8SG
DESCRIPTION: Proposed alterations & extensions existing house.
COMMENT: No objections.

10.3 'Work to trees' training meeting – Council NOTED a suggestion had been made to hold a meeting with the newly appointed tree warden to discuss how tree planning applications are commented on and their future plans for the parish, which include:

- Meeting with land owners to discuss tree planting.
- Plotting on a map all the Parish trees so there is a record for years to come.
- Monitoring the health of trees and hedgerows
- Liaising with the Locality Steward regarding tree planting and maintenance.

11. PARISH MAINTENANCE

11.1 Lengthsman

- Council **NOTED** that they were still awaiting a quote for the village spraying. Cllr P Lloyd declared an interest.
- Council **NOTED** a request to consider installing a handrail on the Market Pitch side of the Rose Garden.

11.2 Highways

- Council **RESOLVED** to contact the locality steward and Welsh Water again about the traffic lights on Kington Road and request a time frame for works.
- Council **NOTED** that there were no road markings at the road exit from Garnstone Drive onto Gadbridge Road. Council **RESOLVED** to contact the locality steward regarding this.

11.3 Tree Warden Resignation – Duplicated item which was addressed during item 7.1.

12. ALLOTMENTS

The Council **NOTED** that they were still awaiting further correspondence from the solicitor's handling the lease. The Council **NOTED** that Welsh Water had sent out a letter regarding £1000 grant that was available. The clerk would contact Welsh Water regarding the specifications/requirements.

13. ROSE GARDEN

Council **NOTED** that they were still awaiting final confirmation from Herefordshire Council regarding S106 funding.

14. PLAY AREA

Council **NOTED** P.A.T meeting minutes from 21st April 2022 which included:

- Mower had further issues and would be sent offer for service and adjustments.
- Awaiting further confirmation on S106 funding and rules regarding drainage.
- Portaloo has been in situation since the 2nd week of May next to the Art Store at the rear of the village hall, but will be relocated onto the Play Area site on the recommendation of the supplier. The Council will be invoiced monthly.
- Tree Warden to look at Play Area trees and sit and advise regarding pruning, hedging and wildflower area.
- Ventilation was needed for the storage container where fuel is stored. This has been resolved.
- Infant gate to be permanently locked to prevent dog walkers allowing dogs onto the play area. Field hedge cutting and grass 'topping' planned.
- Skate board training session carried out by Heather Morison. A further session planned for June.
- Next P.A.T meeting will be held on the 1st June 2022, venue TBC.

15. LEADER INFORMATION BOARDS

Council **NOTED** that they were awaiting confirmation from Visual Works regarding final amendments and that production would begin shortly. Richard Mills will install around the village and Richard Baugh would put up the Bus Shelter Board.

16. INFORMATION SHEET

16.1 Correspondence

Council **NOTED** that the following correspondence had been received:

- Herefordshire Locality Steward update – May 2022
- Talk Community updates – May 2022
- Planned Road Closures for June – May 2022

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

17.1 Council **NOTED** that the next meeting of the Council would be held on **Tuesday 28th June 2022** at 7.00pm in Hopelands Village Hall, Weobley, HR4 8SN and the Annual Parish Meeting on **Thursday 26th May 2022** at 7.00pm.

17.2 Council **NOTED** the following remaining meeting dates for 2022-23:

- 28th June 2022
- 26th July 2022
- 27th September 2022
- 25th October 2022
- 22nd November 2022
- 24th January 2023
- 28th February 2023
- 28th March 2023

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

CHAIR:

DATE: