

WEOBLEY PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Weobley Parish Council Meeting held at Hopelands Village Hall, Weobley, HR4 8SN on Tuesday 23rd January 2024 commencing at 7:00pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors L Anderson (Chair), A Apps, C Breen, S Coleman, F Fitzsimmons, C Mills, H Saunders, H Quinlan and I Wilkinson.

IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk to the Council – Romily Giddens and 9 members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr J Simons.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND WRITTEN REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION

No declarations of interest or written requests for dispensation were received.

3. MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Council Meeting held 28th November 2023 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

4. OPEN SESSION

4.1 Police Report – The Police were not present, and no report was received in advance.

4.2 Ward Councillor Report – The following verbal report was received by Ward Cllr Mason and **NOTED** by the Council:

- Continued focus on finances and the Capital Budget, which was passed by Council in December. £10m is to go towards improving road conditions and potential reallocation of HS2 funds to be set aside to reopen discussions regarding the bypass.
- Enterprise zones to be created for market towns.
- £300m is the estimated cost to repair all of Herefordshire's roads to appropriate standard.
- Reserves down to £1m due to increased expenditure on social care.
- Savings made in the Capital Budget should not impact residents.
- Council looking into protecting public rights of way and the Lengthsman scheme.

4.3 Local residents – The following issues were raised and **NOTED** by the Council:

- Concerns regarding speeding issues within the village, notably on Hereford Road. Traffic travelling very fast and noisily.
- Requests for 20mph introduction, in addition to the movement of speed limit further outside of the village.
- Requests for use of speed radar gun.
- White lines have disappeared on the corner of Hereford Road and Burtonwood junction.
- Concerns raised regarding speed of planning application decisions in Herefordshire Council.

5. FINANCE

5.1 Payment schedule –

Council **RATIFIED** the following payments (including VAT) relating December 2023 and January 2024 as outlined below:

PAYEE	SERVICE	CHEQUE	TOTAL
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Welsh Water	Back Lane Toilets Water – 6 Months	FPO	£477.75
West Mercia Energy	Rose Garden and Library Electricity	DD	£191.16
West Mercia Energy	Back Lane Toilets Electricity	DD	£30.72
Welsh Water	Library Water – 6 Months	DD	£42.29
Romily Giddens	Clerk Salary December 2023	FPO	£376.34
West Mercia Energy	Back Lane Toilets, Rose Garden and Library Electricity	DD	£295.81
			£1,414.07

Council **APPROVED** the payment of accounts (including VAT) relating to December 2023 and January 2024 as outlined below:

PAYEE	SERVICE	CHEQUE	TOTAL
Romily Giddens	Clerk Salary January 2024	FPO	£366.35
Romily Giddens	Clerk's Expenses December 2023 and January 2024	FPO	£98.93
Romily Giddens	Use of Home – 3 Months	Cheque 1860	£25.00
Westhere Ltd	Village Hall CCTV Repair	Cheque 1861	£120.00
Autela	Q3 Payroll Invoice	Cheque 1862	£57.98
A Apps (Create.net)	WPC Website	FPO	£101.88
Mike Williams (MCBS)	Netting + Staples for Footpath Repairs	Cheque 1863	£30.82
Mike Williams (KBS)	Screws + Timber for Footpath Repairs	Cheque 1863	£137.15
C Breen (Amazon)	PA Ear Defenders	Cheque 1864	£6.67
C Breen (Old School Shop)	Xmas Light Plugs	Cheque 1864	£5.70
C Breen (TLC Direct)	Xmas Light Blubs	Cheque 1864	£42.23
C Breen (Carpenter Goodwin)	Repair to Mower Slow Puncture	Cheque 1864	£21.00
L Anderson (Radbournes)	Sandbags	Cheque 1865	£152.88
E Starnes	Xmas Lights Electricity	Cheque 1866	£10.00
Mark Hurds	Xmas Lights Electricity	Cheque 1867	£15.00
Stuart Elder	Xmas Lights Electricity	Cheque 1868	£10.00
K Hughes	Xmas Lights Electricity	Cheque 1869	£10.00
			£1211.59

5.2 Bank Reconciliation April 2023 – January 2024– The Council **NOTED** the bank reconciliation for the 10-month period was £40,090.99. Expenditure for the period totalled £30,975.40 and Receipts totalled £38,637.99 The Reserves account balance on the 23rd January 2023 was £6,446.87

5.3 Budget Monitoring for April 2023 – January 2024– The Council **NOTED** the budget monitoring report for this period. £2,093.76 of the budgeted £36,945.00 precept had been spent during this period.

5.4 Risk Register – The Council **NOTED** the current risk register. The following update was made:

- Hopelands Village Hall renamed under Weobley Village Hall.

5.5 Financial Regulations – The Council **NOTED** that they are currently operating under the NALC 2019 Model Regulations. Council **RESOLVED** to review when the expected NALC 2024 Model Regulations are released.

5.6 2024-25 Budget – The Council **NOTED** the proposed budget for 2024-25 as presented by the Budget Working Group and **RESOLVED** to set the budget for 2024-25 at £39,450. The budget can be viewed on Weobley Parish Council's website.

5.7 Precept 2022-23– The Council **RESOLVED** to formally request a precept of £39,449 for the 2024-25 financial year from Herefordshire Council.

5.8 Clerk's Last Working Day - The Council **NOTED** the Clerk's last working day as the 31st January 2024. HALC will manage emails and Clerk meetings in the interim.

5.9 Parish Clerk Vacancy – The Council **NOTED** HALC are still actively seeking a new clerk on behalf of Weobley Parish Council.

5.10 2024 Insurance – The Council **NOTED** the insurance was due for renewal on the 1st June 2024. The Council **NOTED** that the container contents had been added to the schedule.

6. PARISH MAINTENANCE

6.1 Parish Lengthsman Scheme 2024-25 - The Council **RESOLVED** to submit the Declaration of Interest forms and match funding interest email for the Parish Lengthsman Scheme 2024-25.

6.2 Parish Lengthsman 2024-25 - The Council **RESOLVED** to formally appoint DC Gardening as the Parish Lengthsman for 2024-25.

6.3 Lengthsman

- Council **NOTED** that the Bell Square Car Park's potholes has reappeared.
- Council **NOTED** that the Tree by Bell Square entrance required removal due to safety concerns and **RESOLVED** to discuss with the Locality Steward.
- Council **RESOLVED** to get quotes for 2 x weed spraying for March and May 2024.

6.4 Highways

Following Cllr Anderson's drive round with the Locality Steward, the following issues were **NOTED**:

- Sweeping of leaves required at the top of Hereford Road
- Burtonwood junction markings require repainting
- Flooding issues occurring at the northern end of the Marsh, as well as on Gadbridge Road and Bell Square.

6.5 Footpaths and P.R.O.W

- Council **NOTED** reports from the Parish Footpath Officers of a Broken Bridge which requires repair. Ward Cllr Mason would investigate timeframes.

6.6 Public Toilets

- Council **NOTED** that Mary Kenny would be stepping down as a volunteer cleaner and key holder for the Public Toilets located on Back Lane at the end of January.

7. PLANNING

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

APPLICATION: P233509 – Full Householder

SITE: 6 Burton Wood Weobley Hereford Herefordshire HR4 8SX

DESCRIPTION: Proposed construction of single storey extension to the side of the property. The extension will incorporate a double bedroom and wet room with access to the rear garden. The existing entrance porch to the front elevation will be enlarged to make wheelchair access and egress easier

COMMENT: No objections but concerns raised regarding parking issues of additional vehicles as a result of the extension. Queries raised regarding proposed size compared with existing property.

APPLICATION: P233656 – Full Householder

SITE: Hawthorn Cottage Meadow Street Weobley Hereford Herefordshire HR4 8QS

DESCRIPTION: Proposed erection of extensions to the dwelling and widening of vehicular access.

COMMENT: No objections.

APPLICATION: P233782 – Listed Building Consent

SITE: Tithe Barn Meadow Street Weobley Hereford Herefordshire HR4 8SF

DESCRIPTION: Proposed repairs to gable end of Tithe Barn. The works involve repairs to the oak frame and rendered panels. Damage to these has been caused by the weather over many years.

COMMENT: No objections.

APPLICATION: P240057 – Full Householder

SITE: Church House Church Road Weobley Hereford Herefordshire HR4 8SD

DESCRIPTION: Proposed removal of existing kitchen outbuilding and replacement with new, storey, rear extension. Minor internal remodelling to achieve a more efficient and functional layout. Partial removal of chimney. Replacement of first-floor rear windows.

COMMENT: Some concerns raised regarding materials proposed and their appropriateness in relation to the present building. Objections raised regarding change of windows on East elevation and the reflective material proposed for the roof.

APPLICATION: P233671/233672 – Full Householder/Listed Building Consent

SITE: Nurses Cottage Hereford Road Weobley Hereford Herefordshire HR4 8SW

DESCRIPTION: Proposed single storey glazed extension to the rear of the house bearing directly onto modern existing extension.

COMMENT: No objections.

8. ROSE GARDEN

Council **NOTED** that ‘The Stone Workshop’ and Andrew James were liaising regarding the installation of the new table top.

Council **NOTED** Herefordshire Council have all invoices related to the S106 project, in advance of reimbursement.

Council **NOTED** one of the planted trees is not looking healthy and may need replacing.

9. PLAY AREA

Council **NOTED** P.A.T meeting minutes from the January meeting had been circulated.

Council **CONSIDERED** a quote for proposed moling in the Play Area. Following debate amongst Councillors,

Council **RESOLVED** (voted 5 to 3 with 1 abstention), to proceed with the moling.

10. INFORMATION SHEET

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

- Herefordshire Locality Steward update – December 2023 and January 2024.
- Talk Community updates – December 2023 and January 2024.
- Road Closure Notices – December 2023 and January 2024.

11. WEBSITE

Council **NOTED** that Cllr A Apps was to step down from managing the Weobley.org website due to lack of engagement from local organisations. The Council **RESOLVED** to advertise the volunteer-based position.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

12.1 Council **NOTED** that the next meeting of the Council would be held on Tuesday 27th February 2024 at 7.00pm in Hopelands Village Hall, Weobley, HR4 8SN.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.36 pm.

CHAIR:

DATE: