

WEOBLEY PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Weobley Parish Council Meeting held at Hopelands Village Hall, Weobley, HR4 8SN on Tuesday 24th October 2023 commencing at 7:00pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors L Anderson (Chair), A Apps, S Coleman, C Mills, H Saunders and H Quinlan (1 Vacancy).

IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk to the Council – Romily Giddens.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr J Simons, Cllr C Breen and Ian Wilkinson.

2. CO-OPTION

Council **NOTED** that there are 2 vacancies on the Council. One application had been circulated prior to the meeting of the Council to fill the one Casual vacancy within Weobley Parish Council and was **NOTED** and **RECEIVED** by the Council. The candidate, Ian Wilkinson, was duly proposed and seconded and unanimously **RESOLVED** to be co-opted as a Parish Councillor.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND WRITTEN REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION

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

4. MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Council Meeting held 26th September 2023 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

5. OPEN SESSION

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

Council **RESOLVED** to request the police to produce posters with ‘Police Surgery’ dates on. The next surgery would be held on the 20th November at the Burton Garden’s Community Centre.

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

Ward Cllr Mason’s wife has recently given birth to a baby girl.

Following recent flooding within areas of the village, Ward Cllr Mason had been in contact with relevant bodies, with the aim of preventing similar issues in the future. Balfour Beatty had also been requested to use the sweeper and check/clear gulleys.

Long-term aim of Herefordshire Council is to move smaller jobs away from Balfour Beatty and out to smaller contactors, with the aim of reducing wait times.

Capital Budget withdrawn after submission, following requests for more scrutiny from other councillors.

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

- Flooding in Bell Square following heavy rainfall. Council **RESOLVED** to investigate distribution of sandbags to affected residents.

6. FINANCE

6.1 Payment schedule –

Council **RATIFIED** the following payments (including VAT) relating October 2023 as outlined below:

PAYEE	SERVICE	CHEQUE	TOTAL
Turnwater Ltd	Museum/Library Culvert Survey	Cheque 1838	£720.00

West Mercia Energy	Rose Garden Electricity	DD	£32.71
West Mercia Energy	Back Lane Toilets Electricity	DD	£30.47
			£783.18

Council **APPROVED** the payment of accounts (including VAT) relating to October 2023 as outlined below:

PAYEE	SERVICE	CHEQUE	TOTAL
Romily Giddens	Clerk Salary October 2023	Cheque 1839	£366.35
Romily Giddens	Clerk's Expenses October 2023*	Cheque 1839	£9.99
Mary Kenny (Aldi)	6 x Packs of 9 Toilets Rolls	Cheque 1840	£12.30
L Anderson (Expocart)	A2 A-Board	Cheque 1841	£61.20
PKF Littlejohn	External Audit Fee 22-23	Cheque 1842	£378.00
D V Watkins	Repairs to Back Lane Toilets Overflow	Cheque 1843	£167.04
Weobley Village Hall	Hall Hire x 3	Cheque 1844	£140.00
Autela Payroll Services	Payroll x 3 Months	Cheque 1845	£57.98
C Breen (Travis Perkins)	Scaffold Boards for Shipping Container Shelving	Cheque 1846	£133.56
C Breen (Morrisons)	Mower Fuel	Cheque 1846	£28.96
Carpenter Goodwin	2 x Belts for Mower	Cheque 1847	£21.10
			£1,376.48

Council **RESOLVED** to pay Weobley Village Hall £520 for the annual hire of the Village Hall Car Park, for use by residents (£10 per week).

6.2 Budget Monitoring for April 2023 to September 2023 –

The Council **NOTED** the remaining budget for the year was £21,082.99. Council **NOTED** the full report which is attached the October 2023 minutes.

6.3 2024-25 Budget Working Group –

The Council **RESOLVED** that Cllr Anderson, Apps, Simons, Breen and the Clerk would form the Budget Working Group to consider the 2024-25 budget, ahead of the November meeting.

6.4 Formal Resignation of Clerk –

The Council **NOTED** that they had received the Clerk's formal resignation, with their last working day being the 31st January 2024. Council **RESOLVED** that HALC would be contacted to help find a replacement.

6.5 2024 Meeting Dates –

The Council **NOTED** the following meeting dates for 2024:

- 23rd January
- 27th February
- 26th March
- 23rd April
- 28th May
- 25th June
- 23rd July
- 24th September
- 22nd October
- 26th November

7. PARISH MAINTENANCE

7.1 Lengthsman

- Council **NOTED** the need for general routine maintenance, including weed clearance, sign cleaning and general tidying around the village. Council **RESOLVED** to investigate the contracting of a local gardener to undertake the role.

7.2 Highways

- Council **RESOLVED** to contact the Locality Steward regarding Grip Cutting near the Cornmills.
- Council **NOTED** flooding outside Bell Square, the Library and Museum, The Marsh and the School. Council **RESOLVED** to request a sweeper and drain clearance as required.

7.3 S106 Highway Allocation

- Council **NOTED** that a meeting with Greg Speller and Simon Hobbs would be organised to consider the Parish Council's 'wish list' as drafted by the S106 Highways Working Group.

7.4 Footpaths and P.R.O.W

- Council **RESOLVED** to chase Balfour Beatty regarding the repairs to the town ditch quote.

8. PLANNING

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

APPLICATION: P232925 – Works to Trees in a Conservation Area

SITE: 27 Burton Crescent Weobley Hereford Herefordshire HR4 8TB

DESCRIPTION: Proposed works to Common Oak Quercus in rear garden - remove some of the lower branches to allow more light into the bungalow.

COMMENT: Forwarded to Tree Warden for comment.

APPLICATION: P233019 – Works to Trees in a Conservation Area

SITE: Greystones Hereford Road Weobley Hereford Herefordshire HR4 8SW

DESCRIPTION: T1 - Beech tree - side prune as overhanging drive.

COMMENT: Forwarded to Tree Warden for comment.

9. ALLOTMENTS

Council **NOTED** that the final lease agreement had been signed by the Parish Council and that they were awaiting the completed copy. Council **RESOLVED** to contact HALC regarding the drawing up of an agreement between the Parish Council and the Allotment Society.

10. ROSE GARDEN

Council **NOTED** that work on the Stone Table top is proceeding at the 'The Stone Workshop'.

Council **NOTED** that invoices relating to the S106 reclaim had been forwarded to Andrew Houston.

11. LIBRARY/MUSEUM

Council **NOTED** ~~water had entered the rear of the Library that the further damp issues~~ following the recent heavy rainfall.

Council **RESOLVED** for Cllr J Simons to contact Welsh Water and Whittle Warehouses following Turnwater's report.

12. PLAY AREA

Council **NOTED** P.A.T meeting minutes from the 17th of October had been circulated. Council **NOTED** the following:

- Council **NOTED** that the mower would need to be professionally repaired in future due to difficulty of installing parts.
- Council **NOTED** the portaloo has been booked from the 25/3/24 to the 8/9/24 for next year.
- Council **NOTED** the next P.A.T meeting would be on the 14th of November.

13. INFORMATION SHEET

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

- Herefordshire Locality Steward update – October 2023.
- Talk Community updates – October 2023.
- Road Closure Notices – October 2023.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

14.1 Council **NOTED** that the next meeting of the Council would be held on **Tuesday 28th November 2023** at 7.00pm in Hopelands Village Hall, Weobley, HR4 8SN.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.28 pm.

CHAIR:

DATE: