

WEOBLEY PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Weobley Parish Council Meeting held at Hopelands Village Hall, Weobley, HR4 8SN on Tuesday 26th September 2023 commencing at 7:00pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors J Simons (Chair), A Apps, C Breen, S Coleman, C Mills, H Quinlan and H Saunders (2 Vacancies).

IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk to the Council – Romily Giddens and 1 members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr L Anderson and Cllr C Mills.

2. CO-OPTION

Council **NOTED** that there are 2 vacancies on the Council.

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 27th June 2023 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

5. OPEN SESSION

5.1 Police Report – The Police were not present, and there were no crimes to report on. Council **RESOLVED** to request regular police surgery in the village between the center and Burton Gardens.

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

- Marches Forward Partnership set up to work with other County Council including Gloucestershire, Worcestershire and Powys to lobby to Government on common issues.
- The proposed movement of the Library to the Shire Hall is due to go to Cabinet in a few weeks.
- All state schools in Herefordshire free from **RAAC** Concrete issue. Local buildings are still being investigated.
- Hereford Bypass to be re-added to the Council radar for discussion with a potential incorporation into the Local Plan. Local NDPs will be adopted as part of Local Plan
- There has been a small improvement in the no. of children in care in the County. Need for more foster careers.
- Money for road resurfacing works to be released to prevent further patching up of potholes. Residents encouraged to report road and pavement potholes to Balfour Beatty via their app.
- Plan to set up surgery for residents to speak with Ward Cllr Mason.

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

- Requested for dedicated village noticeboard for local events and business to advertise on. Council **RESOLVED** to investigate cost and location.
- Requested for more proactive policing within the village. Council **RESOLVED** to request more common surgeries and visits.
- Concerns regarding current 30mph limit throughout the Village, along with pinch points causing congestion and a safety risk when tractors and buses are involved. Council **RESOLVED** to draw up a highway's wish list for Herefordshire Council's S106 funding.

6. FINANCE

6.1 Payment schedule –

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

PAYEE	SERVICE	CHEQUE	TOTAL
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HMRC	PAYE/NI	FPO	£270.01
West Mercia Energy	Library and Rose Garden Electricity	DD	£125.73
West Mercia Energy	Back Lane Toilets Electricity	DD	£29.84
Ian Wilkinson	Car Park Bollard Repair	FPO	£30.00
Romily Giddens	Clerk Salary August 2023	FPO	£366.35
West Mercia Energy	Back Lane Toilets Electricity	DD	£30.99
West Mercia Energy	Library Electricity	DD	£100.97
Steve Dartnell (MCBS)	Wooden Stakes - PFO	FPO	£34.80
West Mercia Energy	Rose Garden Electricity	DD	£32.97
			£1,021.66

Council **APPROVED** the payment of accounts (including VAT) relating to August and September as outlined below:

PAYEE	SERVICE	CHEQUE	TOTAL
Romily Giddens	Clerk Salary September 2023	Cheque 1834	£366.35
Romily Giddens	Clerk's Expenses August + September 2023*	Cheque 1834	£19.98
Three Counties Toilet Hire	2 x Portaloo Hire + Collection	FPO	£159.00
Upper Bridge Enterprises Ltd	Email Domains x 2 + Domain Fee	Cheque 1835	£54.60
HALC	Internal Audit Fee 22-23	Cheque 1836	£264.00
G M Joyce Surfacing Ltd	Storage Container	Cheque 1837	£3,360.00
C Breen (Morrisons)	Fuel for Mower	Cheque 1838	£28.02
C Breen (Amazon)	Round-up for Weeds	Cheque 1838	£11.98
C Breen (Screwfix)	Lock for Container	Cheque 1838	£35.00
C Breen (Timpson)	2 x Spare Keys for Container	Cheque 1838	£13.50
C Breen (Carpenter Goodwin)	Mower Tyre Puncture Repair	Cheque 1838	£16.24
C Breen (B&Q)	Threaded Bar 10mm Nuts	Cheque 1838	£21.02
C Breen (Wynnstay Ltd)	Wooden Post for Repair to 'Off Ground Trail'	Cheque 1838	£6.24
C Breen (Amazon)	Refuse Sacks + Round-up	Cheque 1838	£56.27
C Breen (Timpson)	2 x Additional Spare Keys	Cheque 1838	£13.50
QuickFit	3 Tier Shelving Bracket	Cheque 1838	£234.41
			£4,660.11

Council **RESOLVED** to contact Lloyds to chase up the adding of new bank signatories.

6.2 Royal British Legion Donation –

Council **RESOLVED** to donate £50 to the Royal British Legion for Weobley Parish Council's remembrance Wreath.

6.3 Bank Reconciliation for April 2023 to August 2023 –

Council **NOTED** the reconciled balance of £41,939.80. Income for the period totaled £18,542.86 and expenditure totaled £14,783.04.

6.4 Budget Monitoring for April 2023 to August 2023 –

The **NOTED** the estimated remaining budget for the year was £23,678.70. Council **NOTED** the full report would be received at the next meeting.

7. PARISH MAINTENANCE

7.1 Lengthsman

- Council **NOTED** the Annual Maintenance Plan for the 2023-24 Lengthsman scheme had been submitted.
- Council **RESOLVED** to draft a contract between the Parish Council and the Lengthsman.

7.2 Highways

- Council **RESOLVED** to contact the Locality Steward regarding the following enquires:
 - Footpath opposite surgery in poor condition due to tree roots.

7.3 S106 Highways Allocation Meeting Report

Council **NOTED** ~~the below~~ a report, following Cllr L Anderson and the Clerk's meeting with Andrew Houston and Greg Speller of Herefordshire Council:

- S106 delivery backlog of £5.9 million
- Gregg currently managing 72 projects and has background in Civil Engineering and Highways.
- Choice of BBLP or ACON design Consultants. ACON are cheaper and faster, e.g. cost of TRO: BBLP £15-20K or ACON £3-5K.
- £87,762.94 in Highways S106 fund.
- Current projects: Off Street Parking and Parking Restrictions
- Off Street Parking: Some expenditure deducted re the cost of engineering drawings for the proposed Gadbridge Road bay parking. Until advised by Cllr L Anderson that this project has been shelved due to non-permission of the land owners, Gregg was proposing to investigate ownership/permission re the private land and the options for taking the project forward, noting further potential cost re payment for the land/use of. *(No mention of expenditure re pavement to Play Area)*
- Parking Restrictions: plans shown re extension of double yellow lines around top end of Rose Garden and opposite corner (London House).
- Cllr L Anderson noted earlier HC consultation re S106 Highways expenditure and Parking Restriction proposal re 30mph extension on Gadbridge Road (and PC request for B4320 by The Ley). These were not included on the plans shown. Cllr L Anderson also noted current resident interest in 20mph restrictions.
- Parish Council asked to submit 'wish list' of improvements.
- Gregg to consider these and try and fit funding to requests.
- Andrew and Gregg have Tuesday bi-weekly meetings with HC to speed up S106 delivery.

- S106 delivery backlog of £5.9 million
- Greg Speller has a background in Civil Engineering and Highways and is currently managing 72 projects
- Choice of BBLP or ACON design consultants to help achieve best value and quick delivery
- £87,762.94 held in Highways S106 fund for Weobley
- Current projects: Off Street Parking and Parking Restrictions
- Off Street Parking: Some expenditure already deducted re the cost of engineering drawings for the proposed Gadbridge Road bay parking, now shelved as permission needed from the land owners.
- Parking Restrictions: plans shown showed extension of double yellow lines around top end of Rose Garden and opposite corner.
- Earlier HC consultation re S106 Highways expenditure re proposals of a 30mph extension on Gadbridge Road and B4320 by The Ley were not included on the plans shown. Cllr L Anderson noted these and the current resident interest in 20mph restrictions for the village.
- Parish Council asked to submit 'wish list' of improvements.
- Gregg Speller to consider these to accommodate the parish's requests within funding available.
- Tuesday bi-weekly meetings held at HC to speed up S106 delivery.

7.4 Footpaths and P.R.O.W

- Council **NOTED** that ~~the kissing gates had been purchased and were to be installed soon~~ one kissing gate had been installed with two further installations due in the coming months. Gate and equipment storage was now available in the new shipping container.
- ~~Council are investigating the option of purchasing an additional shipping container for storage of additional equipment and supplies.~~

7.5 Town Ditch

- Council **NOTED** a quote received from DC Gardening for the repairs to the town ditch. The quote totalled £7,842.48 + VAT. Council **RESOLVED** to provisionally approved but would forward to Balfour Beatty for prior agreement and authorisation for funding.

8. PLANNING

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

APPLICATION: P232125 – Full Householder

SITE: 14 Burton Wood Weobley Hereford Herefordshire HR4 8SX
DESCRIPTION: Proposed single storey attached garage.
COMMENT: No objections.

APPLICATION: P232209 – Listed Building Consent

SITE: Dairy Farm Meadow Street Weobley Hereford Herefordshire HR4 8SF
DESCRIPTION: Proposed replacement windows and internal works.
COMMENT: No objections.

APPLICATION: P232118 – Full Householder

SITE: Beeches Church Road Weobley Hereford Herefordshire HR4 8SD
DESCRIPTION: Proposed first floor extension, single storey extension to rear, front porch, chimney and construction of a detached two storey double garage with a first floor gym.
COMMENT: No objections regarding change of use. Concerns were raised regarding the loss of a Bungalow type property.

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

APPLICATION: P232393 – Full Householder

SITE: Bellbrook 1 Bell Square Weobley Hereford Herefordshire HR4 8SE
DESCRIPTION: Retrospective application for a domestic heating oil storage tank and boiler, summerhouse, timber bridge with greenhouse over (northern end of brook), and timber bridge (southern end of brook). Permission for replacement fencing to eastern garden boundary (with associated hedgerow planting), access gate within the existing north-eastern fence and replace temporary metal/material structure with a timber pergola.
COMMENT: No comment. Request for **Planning** Department to send out officer to review in person.

9. ALLOTMENTS

Council **NOTED** that the final lease agreement had been signed by Cllr L Anderson and Cllr J Simons and returned to Belmont Abbey's solicitor for counter signing.

Council **NOTED** that the Parish Council would hold the Allotment Society's funds in their account and that the Society would put forward requested for spending. Council **RESOLVED** for the clerk to speak with Heather Morrison regarding the Allotment grant to ensure all criteria of the funding is fulfilled.

10. LIBRARY/MUSEUM

Council **NOTED** Turnwater's site survey of the Culvert had been circulated **round** to Councillors. The report detailed that **their there** was collapsed brickwork and debris in the Culvert. The Council **RESOLVED** to forward the report onto Welsh Water and also investigate the Parish Council's insurance policy.

11. WEBSITE AND NEWSLETTER

Council **NOTED** that both **Council and community websites** are regularly updated and the newsletter had been postponed.

12. PLAY AREA

Council **NOTED** P.A.T meeting minutes from July had been circulated. Council **NOTED** the following:

- Scramble nets out of use since May.
- New container to **be** added to Parish Council's insurance policy.
- Council **RESOLVED** to agree a payment of £195.34 + VAT for 4 x shelf hangers to the container and £144 + VAT for the shelf planks.
- A roller donated by Cllr A Apps would be stored in the new container for use on mole hills.
- New volunteer to receive an induction in October.
- Annual meeting to be held in February 2024.
- 1 x volunteer retiring.

13. INFORMATION SHEET

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

- Herefordshire Locality Steward update – August and September 2023.
- Talk Community updates – August and September 2023.
- Road Closure Notices – August and September 2023.
- Electric Car Charging Points – September 2023

Council **RESOLVED** to submit an EOI for the EV Charging Points.

Council **NOTED** that the Rose Garden table had been cut to size.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

14.1 Council **NOTED** that the next meeting of the Council would be held on **Tuesday 24th October 2023** at 7.00pm in Hopelands Village Hall, Weobley, HR4 8SN.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.49 pm.

CHAIR:

DATE: