

WEOBLEY PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on
Tuesday 18th June 2024 at 19.00 at Hopelands Village Hall, Weobley, HR4 8SN**

Present

Councillors: Lorraine Anderson (in the Chair), John Simons, Chris Breen, Frank Fitzsimmons, Stephen Coleman, Ian Wilkinson, Helen Saunders, Colin Mills.

In attendance

Clerk: Mr Andrew London; Three members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence:

None received.

2. Declarations of interest & written request for dispensation:

Councillor Anderson declared interest in some payments / finance.

3. Minutes:

3.1. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 23rd May 2024 and the Annual Council Meeting held on 28th May 2024:

It was RESOLVED: to approve the minutes as a true and proper record of the meeting. The minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

4. Public Participation Open Session:

4.1. West Mercia Police:

Pc Emma Tuberville was in attendance and gave details of local incidents including a domestic incident and a breach of injunction. She took questions from the floor regarding an additional CCTV camera. Pc Turbeville will make enquiries and report back to the council. Members of the public raised issues regarding parking on pavements and advice was given accordingly. Pc Turbeville was further questioned about Operation Snap, the Operation where footages from car cameras are sent to the police for consideration of offences.

Pc Turbeville finished requesting updated Policing Priorities. Council to consider and report.

4.2. Ward Councillors Report: The Ward Councillor reported:

4.2.1. There was no report.

4.3. Representations from Members of the Public:

4.3.1. Two members of the public raised issues regarding the parking in Weobley and requesting a letter to the GP Surgery and Dental surgery to request parking at the village Hall. One member of the public requested an update regarding sec 106 monies and traffic calming measures.

5. Councillor Issues:

Councillor Simmons raised issues regarding parking on Hereford Road which caused oncoming vehicles to mount the pavement. It was agreed that a letter be sent to Mr. Simon Hobbs at Herefordshire Council.

The issues of overgrown hedges that hang onto the pavements was raised. It was suggested that an entry in the 'Magpie' community magazine would suffice.

It was reported that there was to be a film crew in the village and that there were to be road closures. Council have had no notification on the matter, Councillor Anderson will enquire at Herefordshire Council.

6. Finances:

6.1 Bank Balances:

It was reported that the balance of the Current Account as of 1st June 2024 is £74,139.25. It was not possible to check outstanding cheques as the old cheque books are with the Internal Auditor. It was reported that the balance of the Reserve Account is £6474.70.

6.2. Annual Governance and Accountability Return.

The Clerk reported that the accounts were with the Internal Auditor and that Council was not able to proceed. The Clerk further reported that he had applied for an extension with the External Auditor and that this had been granted to the 31st of July.

6.3. Payments:

Members considered outstanding invoices for payment.

It was RESOLVED: to approve the following invoices for payment:

- 6.3.1. Clerk Pay, June 2024 in accordance with contract.
- 6.3.2. HMRC, in respect of Clerk's pay (as above).
- 6.3.3. Weobley Village Hall (05/24) Lengthsman meeting - £6.50p.
- 6.3.4. Weobley Village Hall (Annual Parish Meeting) - £31.00p.
- 6.3.5. GR White – Lengthsman - £200.00p.
- 6.3.6. Herefordshire Tree Warden Network - £30.00p.
- 6.3.7. Councillor Anderson – Noticeboard keys- £29.30p.
- 6.3.8. Councillor Anderson – Public Toilet Consumables - £9.18p.
- 6.3.9. Weobley Village Hall (10/04/24) - £6.50p.
- 6.3.10. Weobley Village Hall (16/04/24) £9.75p.
- 6.3.11. Clerks' expenses - £54.00p.
- 6.3.12. Playdale Swing - £2308.63p.
- 6.3.13. Three Counties Toilets - £96.00p.

Cllrs Anderson and Breen refrained from voting on 6.3.7. and 6.3.8., in accordance with her declaration of interest.

6.4. To note the below direct debits and prior payments:

- 6.4.1. Councillor Breen – Playground mowing - £100.00p.
- 6.4.2. Councillor Breen – Playground weedkiller and paint - £34.00p.
- 6.4.3. Councillor Breen – Repairs to Rotabounce - £50.00p.
- 6.4.4. Weobley Village Hall (04/24) - £17.00p.
- 6.4.5. Three Counties Toilets - £96.00p.
- 6.4.6. Welsh Water Direct Debit for public toilets - £75.54p.
- 6.4.7. HALC – Clerk Recruitment - £300.00p.

7. Parish Maintenance:

7.1. Works to be undertaken by the Lengthsman:

It was reported that a few weeds were beginning to show around the village.
The Chair will speak with Glen White to remedy.

7.2. Works to report to Herefordshire Council:

Members considered work to report to Herefordshire Council.
It was reported that grating near to Bell square was collapsing. The Clerk will contact the locality steward to assess.

7.3. Update on Section 106 Monies:

§106 Monies had been allocated and will be used for traffic calming measures in the village.

7.4. Works to Footpaths and Public Rights of Way (PRoW):

The Clerk reported that the date for applications for P3 and rights of way grant funding was approaching. He stated that he will apply for an extension but stated locations and works will be required. The Chair will speak with the Rights of Way Officer to obtain details and reply to the clerk. It was reported that a cheque had been given to the Council in support of PRoW works. This was handed to the Clerk for credit to the PRoW budget.

7.5. Maintenance of the Public Toilets:

It was reported that the cleaning position at the public toilets was in need of review. It was suggested that a visit 2 or 3 days per week would suffice with a budget of £1000.00p. would cover. Council voted in support of these figures. The Chair will make contact to finalise.

7.6. Parish Tree Warden:

A report from the tree warden had been circulated by E Mail.

8. Planning:

8.1. To consider responding to Planning Applications for determination by Herefordshire Council:

8.1.1. Planning application 241286 – Proposed fence at 3 Portland Street, Weobley.

8.1.2. Planning application 241287 – Proposed fence at 3 Portland Street, Weobley.

Council discussed the above applications and RESOLVED to support without comment.

8.1.3. Planning application 241301 – Tree works at Chamberwell Cottage, Weobley.

Council discussed the application and read the tree wardens report. Council RESOLVED to support the application without comment.

8.2. To note Planning Decisions made by Herefordshire Council:

Council noted the below decisions by Herefordshire Council

8.2.1. Planning application 240984 – 1 Portland Street, Weobley – Approved.

8.2.2. Planning application 240867 – The Old Forge, Mill bank, Weobley – Approved.

8.3. To note Planning Applications awaiting decision by Herefordshire Council:

Council noted the one outstanding application.

Planning application 240929 – The Leys, Weobley.

9. Footpaths:

There was no report to give. The Clerk gave an update on the P3 Grant application.

6. Play Area:

Councillor Breen gave an update and reported that he was awaiting a date for the drainage works. He stated that the Bucket swing had been ordered and that the Rotabounce was ready for installation. Scramble nets were ready and that a donated beech tree was to be planted.

7. Library and Museum:

Councillor Andreson reported that a letter was to be sent to adjoining landowner regarding the drainage issue at the library.

8. Website:

The Clerk reported that Councillors should consider individual .gov email addresses and that Council should consider migrating the website to a .gov domain. These were recommended by the National Association (NALC) and by the Cabinet Office. Councillor Apps to investigate further.

9. Information Sheet:

Members noted correspondence including:

- 9.1. May Newsletter from the Leader of Herefordshire Council
- 9.2. Weekly reports from the Locality Steward
- 9.3. West Mercia Police Neighbourhood Matters.

10. Items for the next Agenda: Members raised the following items for the next agenda:

- 10.1. To consider transferring monies from the current account to a reserve account.
- 10.2. An update regarding the Park View sign.
- 10.3. Co Option to the council.

11. Date of the Next Meeting: Tuesday 23rd July 2024, 7pm, Hopelands Village Hall, Weobley, HR4 8SN

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

SIGNED DATE