

## **WEOBLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

*Minutes of the Weobley Parish Council meeting held on  
Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 19.00 at the Village Hall, Weobley, HR4 8SN*

### **Present**

*Councillors: Lorraine Anderson (in the Chair), Breen, Simons, Wilson, Saunders, Fitzsimmons. Also, present Mr Andrew London – Clerk, Mr Nick Mason (Ward Councillor) and two members of the public.*

#### **1. To receive apologies for absence.**

Councillors Wilkinson and Apps. Councillor Nick Mason had sent apologies for a late appearance.

#### **2. To receive declarations of interest and consider any written requests for dispensation.**

Councillors Anderson, Fitzsimmons, Simons and Saunders gave declaration in respect of item 11.

#### **3. Minutes: - To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting held Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2025.**

Minutes had been circulated by E Mail to Councillors and were available in written form. Councillors agreed to the minutes as a true and accurate record. These were duly signed by the Chair.

#### **4. Open session.**

##### **1. To receive a brief verbal report from West Mercia Police.**

Apologies were received from Pc Turberfield. She had sent a written report giving details of a Drink Driver, an attempted burglary and a Domestic incident.

Council was concerned about an injunction due to expire in the Burtonwood area. It was requested that the Clerk report this to the SNT amid concerns regarding expected ASB issues.

##### **2. To receive a brief verbal report from Ward Councillor Mason**

Councillor Mason gave details regarding the Marsh Drainage, He stated that work to clear Newbridge Stream has taken place c/o Lugg Drainage Board. They will be asked to return as some areas were missed, they will be asked to take brash away.

He further stated that Herefordshire Council (HC) are seeking Environment Agency grant to do a hydrology report.

He further gave details of work on Stocking bends which continues, road still closed at present. The 2025/26 Council Tax increase had been approved.

It was said that HC have appealed about the required increase in housing quota. Central Government were intransigent on the subject. There will be a risk of speculative development due to the new required 5-year Housing supply figure.

The new Bypass could bring more housing development but this will need infrastructure.

Social Services – A small amount of government funding has been received. The service is hitting targets and there are positive reports but also growing needs.

##### **3. To receive the views of residents on local matters.**

There had been E Mails regarding the below: -

1. A request for repairs to fence by Library (ref. flooding incidents)

The Chair will ask Lengthsman, Mr. Glen White to repair.

2. A request for hedge-cutting in Hereford Road for pedestrian safety. Residents will be asked to keep their hedges trimmed. Councillor Sauders will speak with the owners of the Throne regarding shrubs at the junction of Hereford Road and Gadbridge Road.
3. There were updates regarding the film income with a final request for ideas in April Magpie. Also suggested was an upgrade to muddy condition of the permissive path in Play area – This will be reported to the PFO's.

## 5. Councillor Issues –

For Councillors to raise local issues for further discussion.

Councillor Breen reported streetlight 1036 in Kington Road reported to HC as not working Councillor Saunders raised issues regarding cigarette butts outside Lal Bagh restaurant. This will be reported to the litter pickers.

It was reported that a Defibrillator has been installed at Burton Gardens by Marches Housing The subject of CCTV at Burton Gardens Community Centre was raised – The Chair will make enquiries of O M Security.

## 6. Finance -

### 6.1. To note the current bank account balances.

The Clerk gave details of the accounts and balances. It was requested that the Clerk submit the VAT claims on a quarterly basis.

### 6.2 To consider the following invoices for payment.

6.2.1. Clerks Pay – March 2025 - £475.88p.

6.2.2. HMRC – Clerks PAYE – February 2025 - £119.00p – Standing Order.

The following was also raised as late presentations

6.2.3 Village Hall request for 2023 and 2024 Safety check grant (£700 max per annum -2023 - £ 687.35, 2024 - £516.84) This was approved

6.2.4. Steve Dartnell – PROW footbridge installation - £337.46

6.2.5. Glen White – Verge repair £ 130.00 and Lengthsman jobs £ 280.00

6.2.6. Village Hall – Flood Group meetings invoice (CB) 03/03/25 - £18.

6.2.7. Rose Garden – Invoice for 2024 The Chair has spoken with Anna Spreckley and she has agreed to continue but more hours are spent on Rose Garden maintenance than are invoiced, so will need to increase annual budget to £550 (reduced rate + work in kind as contribution to community). Increase agreed. The Chair to confirm with Anna

6.2.8. Library survey - £648. Approved

### 6.3. To note the below direct debits and prior payments

Direct Debits for Electricity, water and rates at Library and toilets. List of payments attached.

### 6.4. To Consider donation towards Christmas Lights.

Council had in previous years given payments to businesses and residents that supplied electricity for Christmas lights. These businesses were The Green Bean, Mark Hurds Butchers , Salutation Inn and the Unicorn Inn.

The Clerk to check previous payments re amount paid and advise Chair who will in turn pay in cash for reimbursement from Parish Council. Councillor Breen stated that an additional string will be added for St Columba's in High Street this year. Council RESOLVED to agree to these payments.

## 7. Parish Maintenance -

### 7.1. To consider works to be undertaken by the lengthsman.

Invoice and photos of damage to Bell Square verge will be forwarded to Nick Mason for assistance in identifying person responsible and receiving recompense.

### **7.2 To consider works to report to Herefordshire Council.**

It was stated that potholes should be reported on the HC portal. It was advised that the locality steward, Mr. Phil Pankhurst should be advised in addition.

### **7.3 To receive an update on Sec 106 monies.**

Councillor Breen gave an update regarding Play area drainage – He was still awaiting response from solicitors regarding the easement. HC are awaiting permission to trim trees adjacent to the ditch to allow access for construction plant.

A Report was circulated by the Chair with a summary of the proposals, discrepancies, observations and concerns re the S106 Highways Traffic Calming Scheme. The Chair to submit to Greg Speller and ADL

### **8. Report from the Library / Museum Working Group.**

A Report circulated by Cllr Simons, Working Group (WG) lead. The subject of ownership and access to adjacent land was being investigated.

The Condition Survey was circulated and the WG will need to be looked at in depth. The Funding resource suggested by Councillor Mason at the last meeting was not accessible as we do not meet with the grant's aims. Cllr Simons is consulting with Jamie Perry at HC re community grants.

### **9. Report from the Drainage working group.**

Reports by Councillor Breen, Mr. J Shutler and Councillor Anderson ref meetings on 12th and 18<sup>th</sup> March had been circulated.

There has been an appeal issued in Magpie for responses from residents affected by flooding which would assist with Parish access to Support funding.

### **10. Planning –**

#### **10.1. To discuss and comment on planning applications for decision by Herefordshire Council.**

- 10.1.1. [250747](#) – Proposed tree works at 15 Burton Wood, Weobley. Supported
- 10.1.2. [250328](#) Proposed tree works at Parkfields, Church Road, Weobley. Supported
- 10.1.3. [250450](#) House works at 'the Sallies', Gadbridge Road, Weobley. Supported

#### **10.2. To note decisions made by Herefordshire Council.**

- 10.2.1. [241762](#) – Proposed construction of boundary wall at Daisy Bank, Mill bank, Weobley – **Approved with conditions.**
- 10.2.2. Planning application 250177 – Proposed tree works at '**Highbury**', Weobley – **Granted.**
- 10.2.3. Planning application **250159** – Proposed tree works at **Red Bank, Westhope Lane, Bush Bank (Not in Parish).** – **Granted.**
- 10.2.4. Planning application 243036 – Proposed two storey extension at **27 Garnstone Drive, Weobley** – **Approved with conditions.**

#### **10.3. To note planning applications awaiting decision by Herefordshire Council.**

- 10.3.1. [240386](#) – Planning appeal – fence erection, 3 Portland Street, Weobley.

### **11. To nominate representative to the Village Hall.**

Councillor Frank Fitzsimmons for year 2025/26 was nominated and accepted.

### **12. Community Asset Solution in respect of the Salutation – An update.**

The Application had been started but was incomplete as much supporting information and documents are required. It appears to be primarily for community right to bid purposes. The Chair has spoken to Rachel Fletcher, Programme Coordinator, HC Asset

Management & Property Services who has confirmed that registration would also support any change of use application.  
The Salutation was not sold at auction on 20<sup>th</sup> March. Council will monitor the situation.

**13. Footpaths / Highways**

A Cheque for £100 has been received as donation towards PROW maintenance. ~~for~~  
In-house bridge replacement had been undertaken by the PFOs.

**14. Play Area – To receive an update and consider action as required.**

A report has been circulated to Councillors. It has been previously agreed to consider the hire of the Portaloo for a running 12-month period. A quote has now been received £1248. PC to insure.

**15. To consider items for the next agenda.**

15.1. To set date for the Annual Parish Meeting and invite a speaker.

15.2. Mandate for Accounts.

15.3. Renew Clerks Powers to spend and comment.

15.4. Renew Policies.

15.5. Village hall car parking annual payment

**16. Date of next meeting – 7.00pm Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

**17. Diary of Meetings.**

24th April PC Meeting Hopelands Studio 7 - 9 pm

22nd May PC Annual Meeting Hopelands Studio 7 - 9 pm

29th May Annual Parish Meeting, Hackley Hall 7-9 pm

26th June PC Meeting Hopelands Studio 7 - 9 pm

24th July PC Meeting Hopelands Studio 7 - 9 pm

August - no meeting

25th September PC Meeting Hopelands Studio 7 - 9 pm

23rd October PC Meeting Hopelands Studio 7 - 9 pm

27th November PC Meeting Hopelands Studio 7 - 9 pm

December - no meeting

HALC Training Day 17<sup>th</sup> June – Committee Room. - 7pm – 9pm.

Andrew London - Clerk

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