

## Foxley Group Parish Council

Minutes of the General Meeting held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at The Linhay,  
Devereux Wootton, Norton Canon

The meeting commenced at 6.30pm

Present: D.Gwynne (Chairman), A.Apps, S.Hallett, A.Powell,

Apologies: A.Davies

In Attendance: R.Hallett (Clerk), N.Mason (Ward Councillor)

### 1. Previous Minutes

- a. Draft Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2024 were accepted and signed by DG as a true record.
- b. Draft Minutes of the General Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> August 2024 were accepted and signed by DG as a true record.

### 2. Matters Arising

- a. RH reported that after a site visit with Herefordshire Council, there is now a proposal for HC to install hardstanding and a bus stop sign on the A480 in the direction of Hereford. This is subject to HC internal review and the result of this process is pending. The idea of installing a bus shelter is currently deferred until this phase is concluded.
- b. 14 letters were issued to the residents of Moorhampton, consulting on the desirability of traffic calming measures. 4 responses were received of which only 2 were in favour of the measures proposed. With such limited support, and the heavy cost implications, it was therefore decided not to progress the scheme. The question of whether to pursue a speed restriction is to be revisited at the next meeting.
- c. A decision in principle was made to purchase a "Tractor Turning" sign for the westerly approach to the Moorhampton turning. The parish council would organise installation.
- d. At the request of DG, RH to approach Balfour Beatty regarding the apparent failure to restore a SLOW sign painted on the road on the approach to the old railway bridge in Moorhampton

### 3. Finance

- a. The regular report was presented (see Agenda). The current bank balance is relatively high after receipt of the second precept instalment. However, the bulk of our expenses, the Lengthsman, will only materialise in the next few months.
- b. There are 174 residences in the Foxley Group area. With a current precept of £3,900, this gives an average of £22.41. It was decided to increase this to £30 per property, so £5,220. This is still very low compared to other Herefordshire parish councils but will give an increased ability to fund flood management measures on the minor roads.

- c. The budget for 2025/26 was confirmed as:

Expenses	
Insurance	330
Website	180
Lengthsman Contract	2200
Hall Hire	40
Grants	600
Sub Total	<hr/> 3350
Income	5220
Total	Surplus of 1390

- d. For grants to be made by the parish council, it was decided that SH would approach both Brinsop and Mansel Lacy & Yazor PCCs, historic grant recipients, and encourage them to apply, along with supporting documentation.
4. Highways
- The parish council has been awarded £2,590 from the 24/25 Local Drainage Fund. This will allow clearing of a culvert in Mansel Lacy, restoration of a ditch in Mansel Lacy and restoration of a ditch on the access lane to Little Wooton Farm and Hill Top Farm in Wormsley.
  - After further investigation, it has been clarified that the section of ground outside The Old School House, marked by large stones, is neither part of the property, nor of the public realm. The residents are nonetheless happy to control the vegetation in this area although the parish council have offered to assist if needed.
5. Planning
- The owner of Woodleigh has installed a grille across his drive to prevent run off from washing gravel onto the main road.
6. Any Other Business
- Crime priorities were confirmed as excessive speed on the A480 through the area and would remain until amended.
  - NM gave an update on HC business: finances, children's services, planning department, and a particular focus on long term improvement in flood management in the county
  - RH emphasised the importance to the parish council of the Locality Steward role and asked NM to ensure that, within the restructuring of the highways maintenance contract, the role, particularly the liaison element, is not lost. NM confirmed that he also saw this liaison activity as very important.
  - The parish council has attempted to approach HC, via BB, to discuss improvements to the flow of Yazor Brook through Mansel Lacy. As yet, there has been no response. RH to pass to NM a copy of the email sent to BB.
  - There were no comments on the Foxley Woodland Management Plan
7. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at 6.30pm at The Linhay.

The meeting closed at 7.55pm