

BREDENBURY GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council

Held on Wednesday 28th October 2020 at 7.00pm via GoToMeeting online

Present: Councillors: John Hulse (Chair), Hugh Farey, Carolyne Gwynn, Geoff Hancock, Pete Jones, Massie Piggott

In attendance: Ward Councillor John Harrington, Clerk Vicky Hancock

1. Apologies for absence: None

2. Declarations of interest and written requests for dispensation: Cllr Hancock declared an interest in items 6.4.1 and 6.4.2 and signed the book accordingly.

3. Open Session

3.1 No local residents in attendance.

3.2 Report from Ward Cllr John Harrington

- Covid-19 seeing a spike in the numbers in Herefordshire. Latest numbers currently 114 cases with 25 in hospital. We may well move into the next tier as cases rise. Three Counties Hotel has been put on standby again for moving patients from hospital and not back to into care homes. Deaths stand at 131.
- Herefordshire Council (HC) has incurred a lot of Covid-19 debt during this pandemic
- Government have given 1million to support free school meals (FSM) not 3 million as promised.
- Balfour Beatty Living Places (BBLP) review of Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO) cost about 10k currently. No Council officers for managing this and BBLP outsource this work. Employing someone internally to deal with this could reduce the time and cost. TRO list too large at the moment and needs to be reduced.
- Planning department to have a review at the beginning of November. The planning advisory service will come in to monitor the work of this department.
- (Habitats Regulation Assessments (HRA) issue still ongoing. Taking further legal advice regarding the planning permissions and the phosphates issue. HC are unable to give permissions in the catchments of the Lugg and Wye even though they do not have responsibility for the rivers. Having regular meetings with Powys officers and councillors. Natural Resources Wales (NRW) are doing more testing. The Wye and Usk Foundation are talking to farmers regarding run off and pollutants entering the rivers. Integrated wetlands to be brought in one in Dilwyn and one in Canon Pyon. HC to get legal counsel again to see if Herefordshire can begin to grant permissions again. Legal advice to be heard soon.
- Hereford Transport Review completed with 6 options. Going to the Scrutiny Committee to be considered on 9th November.

4. To consider the minutes of the previous meeting.

Parish Council Meeting... 30th September 2020. It was RESOLVED to adopt the minutes and to be signed by the chairman in accordance with social distancing.

5. Budget Monitoring

5.1 The Clerk shared the October budget monitoring sheet. Little expenditure during this period and the budget variance stands at -5.60%. To be signed by Cllr Hulse accordance with social distancing.

6. Finance

6.1 The Clerk shared the bank statement to 30th September 2020. Balance brought forward £9928.34. The balance at 30th September 2020 £13,246.20. Noted and to be signed by Cllr Hulse in accordance with social distancing.

6.2 Clerk shared the Bank Control Account to 30th September 2020 which detailed payments and receipts to date. Closing balance £13,246.20. Noted and to be signed by Cllr Hulse in accordance with social distancing.

6.3 To note payments already made:

6.3.1 IP Culley Consultation response £160.00

6.3.2 Herefordshire Council warning signage £1955.60 (inc VAT)

6.4 It was RESOLVED to agree the following payments:

6.4.1 Clerk's October salary and note assessment report re: Work Place Pension

6.4.2 Clerk's office expenses stamps £18.24

7. Budget 2021-22 Cllr Hulse shared the 3-year budget sheet as recommended by the Finance Working Group (FWG). The excel sheet shows expenditure to date and expected expenditure to year end which shows we will be spending under budget. Notably some items of expenditure haven't occurred this year due to Covid-19. Cllr Hulse talked through the provisional budget for 2021-22 which was set last year and the revision from the FWG recommendations this year. (appendix i) Years 2022-23 and 2023-24 have been uplifted to take account of inflation. Cllr Hulse then shared the two waterfall charts. Cost estimates 2021-22 (appendix ii) and monthly cash flow (appendix iii). Included in the expenditure were the additional expenditure items: Lengthsman, Smartwater contribution. Cllr Jones asked about the budget items showing zero. These are items where we are not expecting to spend against this next year but need to maintain the budget heading. The FWG agreed to not budget for SID deployment. Cllr Farey asked about funding for a lengthsman. There is currently no funding from Herefordshire Council although this may be available in the future. That is why we have costed it out in our budget. The planned expenditure on noticeboards will not now be needed as they have been made and donated to the Parish by a resident (see Item 14). The Council RESOLVED to accept the 3-year budget as presented and the detailed budget for 2021-22.

8. Precept As recommended by the FWG there should be no change to the Precept 2021-22 and this will remain at £8560. Council RESOLVED to accept this recommendation. Clerk to complete necessary paperwork and return to Herefordshire Council.

9. Planning P/203281 The Snorings, Valley View, Bredenbury, Bromyard HR7 4UJ. Fell Cupressus- Lawson Cypress. Council agreed to support this application.

A question was asked regarding the number of planning applications that have been requested over the years for managing the trees in the gardens of properties adjacent to the A44. It is believed an area Tree Protection Order (TPO) was placed on all the trees some years ago. This means that residents have to reapply even if they are pollarding a tree that has already been pollarded in the past. This incurs significant additional cost to residents. Clerk to email Oliver Kaye and Elizabeth Duberley and cc Cllr Harrington regarding this issue.

9.1 Planning for the Future responses A number of residents sent a letter the local MP using the CPRE template and were very disappointed with the blanket response they received.

10. BBLP response to Parish Council requests

The Clerk pointed out the frustrations whenever we approach BBLP regarding projects where the council want to improve things for residents. The first response is quite often negative – 'you can't do it' or 'it isn't worth it' or 'it will never happen' or 'it shouldn't have been done in

the first place'. This can be disappointing when so much time, effort and discussion has gone into what we want to achieve. Ward Cllr Harrington listened to our points and asked the Clerk to email details. There have been recent areas of discussion with BBLP:

- i) verge markers
- ii) collapsed bridge on PROW
- iii) bridleway

11. Road safety

11.1 Harp/Rowden Lane TRO no update as we have not received any communication to date from ADL Bristol. Ward Cllr Harrington to chase this up.

11.2 The Chair was pleased to relay that Rachel and Chris Cambrey have offered to pay a third of the cost of the installation of horse and rider warning signage. This offer was received with grateful thanks and appreciation by the Parish Council and the chair thanked them for their public spirited behaviour. A letter of thanks to be written.

12. Lengthsman Closing date for responses to invitation to tender 30th October. George Day has contacted the council to say he has too much contract work currently but would be happy to have a conversation after Christmas. Cllr Jones and Clerk to open any tenders on Monday 2nd November.

13. Footpath Officer Bridleway at Butterley Brook. We received an alert that the bridleway was collapsing over the brook. This was discussed in item 10. BBLP have now put up barriers to protect the riders, over-hanging trees to be cut back and broken fencepost to be removed. Cllr Farey to speak to landowner regarding the gate which is now redundant and could be left open.

14. Correspondence:

- Consultation on Licensing Policy for Herefordshire Council. Cllr Farey to forward details consultation to Bredenbury Court. Clerk to forward details to Barneby Inn.
- Email from PCC to inform us that the staff from Bredenbury School are going to park in the Community Car Park to relieve congestion outside the school at dropping off and pick-up time.
- Hereford Rural Hub sent a leaflet from NFU regarding the law applying to agricultural vehicles. Weight/speed/ young drivers etc.
- Open letter from the Parish Council for the November Roundabout highlighting the dangers of speeding traffic on Rowden Lane.
- The Clerk received a message from Bob Ayres to say the parish noticeboards were ready. They are such well-made and substantial oak boards. They have been delivered and are now stored at The Old Post Office. A decision will need to be made about where they are going to be erected. Bob has donated them to the parish and Councillors were appreciative of such a generous gesture. Letter of thanks to be written to Bob.

15. To raise matters for the next meeting:

- Lengthsman
- TRO
- Area TPO in Valley View
- Noticeboards

16. Dates for the next meetings:

Wednesday 25th November

Wednesday 23rd December (TBC)

The meeting closed at 8.18pm

Appendix i – 3-year budget

Appendix ii – Waterfall chart Cost estimates 2021/22

Appendix iii – Waterfall chart Monthly Cash Flow 2021/22