

BREDENBURY GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council

Held on Wednesday 28th June 2023 at 7.30pm in a private room at The Barneby Inn

Present: Councillors: John Hulse, Pete Jones, Alex Gerrard, Becca Libby, Hugh Farey

In attendance: Vicky Hancock Clerk, Bruce Baker Ward Councillor

Cllr Hulse opened the meeting by extending our condolences to Councillor Piggott and his family on the sudden death of his father George 'Pud' Piggott. Pud had been an active member of the Parish Council for many years and an incredible member of our community and also the wider farming community. He will be sadly missed.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr Berwick, Cllr Piggott,
2. **Declarations of interest and written requests for dispensation:** None declared
3. **To consider the minutes of the previous meeting:** Annual Parish Council Meeting 24th May 2023. It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes and these were signed by the Chairman.

4. Open Session

4.1 Views from local residents:

- A local resident had complained about the parking outside the school. Whilst trying to turn into Rowden Lane with a tractor and trailer a car was parked so near to the junction that the trailer was left obstructing the carriageway of the A44 which was very dangerous. Cllr Baker reminded us that drivers should not to stop or park opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction, except in an authorised parking space. The Clerk to contact the school and remind them about parking outside the school.

4.2 Councillor Baker gave a brief council update

- Councillors had now completed their compulsory training for their role within Herefordshire Council
 - Roger Phillips (Chair Herefordshire Council, Chair Rural Services Network had delivered an informative zoom meeting regarding the Rural Services Network. As a Parish Council we are signed up to receive their monthly Bulletin featuring Rural Funding Digest & Government consultations
 - Inspectorate will be re-visiting Children's Services in the near future to look at progress
 - There is to be a review by the end of July of the plan to move the library to Maylords. The museum in Broad Street is to undergo intensive improvements.
 - Asylum seekers are to be housed in The Talbot Hotel in Leominster
 - Herefordshire Council remembered Councillor Peter Jinman who died suddenly
- The Chairman thanked Cllr Baker for his report

5. **Budget Monitoring** June budget monitoring sheet was reviewed and **APPROVED**. It was noted the expenditure from Reserves is now accounted for as an additional column. (Appendix i) Noted and signed by the Chairman.

6. Finance

- 6.1 Bank statement to 31st May 2023 reviewed. Closing balance £14,239.49. Noted and signed by Cllr Jones.
- 6.2 Bank Control Account to May 31st 2023 was reviewed. Balance including outstanding cheque payments £12,791.49

6.3 It was **RESOLVED** to agree the following payments:

6.3.1 HMRC Q1 PAYE £35.60

6.3.2 Lengthsman (due to illness the Clerk had not received the invoice from JJ)

6.3.3 Clerk's June Salary and note assessment report re: Workplace Pension

7. Lengthsman: We have received details of the 2023-24 Lengthsman Scheme from Balfour Beatty. There is grant funding available to support parish councils to allow their Lengthsman to carry out works. Council **AGREED** that we should complete the Expression of Interest, Annual Maintenance Plan and Contract.

8. Chair's Chat Report Cllr Hulse reported back on the zoom meeting with HALC.

- A reminder that if anything changes regarding registrable interests for a councillor the onus is on them to send a revised form to Herefordshire Council's Monitoring Officer
- There is to be changes to the Infra-structure Levy which will mean that Herefordshire Council will be mandated to adopt this system. There will be an impact on those parishes whose NDP has not been adopted as they will only receive 25% of funding whereas those councils with an adopted NDP will receive 35%. NALC are lobbying for a system where the funding will bypass the council and be paid directly to parish councils. Council **AGREED** we should write to HALC pointing out we are still waiting for our plan to be adopted.
- Cllr Hulse pointed out that the Herefordshire Monitoring Officer lives in Somerset however if it was necessary to have a meeting it should be face-to-face, accompanied and recorded.

9. Road Safety

9.1 Cllr Hulse had had another conversation with Simon Hobbs regarding the A44 and also the Bredenbury Court entrance which has been the site of incidents caused by vehicles travelling too fast on that stretch of road without noting the road conditions. He pointed out that Local authorities cannot fund signage for private venues. Cllr Farey provided the councillors with data showing an overview of the considerable number of vehicles entering and exiting the busy Bredenbury Court wedding venue from the A44 throughout the year.

9.2 TRO update - Ward Councillor Baker had found out that the original TRO on Rowden Lane was still active even though the TRO for a speed reduction on the A44 had superseded it.

9.3 Village Gates & Speed Indicator grant funding is still ongoing as the Herefordshire Police Superintendent has to sign the request.

10. West Mercia Police Community Charter Update Clerk had received apologies from PC Toby Stephenson who is unable to attend tonight's meeting. After discussion regarding the Parish Contact Contract it was **AGREED** the 3 community issues should be 1. Speeding on A44 2. Other traffic Offences 3. Attempted/actual break-in to property. Clerk to update contract and return to West Mercia.

11. Great Collaboration Cllr Jones has decided he does not feel able to co-ordinate the Great Collaboration local engagement. After some discussion it was **AGREED** that this initiative it would be better if it was made from a group of like-minded, enthusiastic and concerned residents. Cllr Hulse to arrange kick-off meeting.

12. Asset of Community Value (ACM) Re-registration Councillors **AGREED** we should re-register the village hall as an Asset of Community Value. Cllr Hulse to complete the application.

13. Village Hall update The internal studwork has been started and on completion the plan is to install 1st fix plumbing then electrics and the exterior concrete board and rendering.

14. Correspondence

- Bredenbury Parish Room Management Committee sent a thank you letter for the donation
- Bredenbury Primary School –shared a photograph of the children wearing the hi-viz vests the council purchased for the school

- Access to banking in Bromyard – Clerk to write to Bromyard Council and the
- Defibrillators roll-out – there is a plan to ensure all schools have access to a defibrillator. The Clerk advised council that schools are encouraged to ensure there is community access to the device. Clerk To write to Martin Farmer Executive Head QE and request this.
- Rowden Station ditch clearance email from the residents to say the ditch had been cleared successfully.
- Mineral Waste Consultation – this could have major implications. Cllr Hulse suggested we should approach Ian Culley to help with our response to this. This was **AGREED**.

15. To raise matters for the next meeting

- TRO
- Mineral Waste Consultation
- Lengthsman
- Village Hall

16. Dates of next meetings agreed:

Wednesday 28th July 2023 @7.00pm

Please note no there is no August meeting

Wednesday 27th September @7.00pm

Wednesday 25th October @7.00pm

Meeting closed at 8.33pm