

BREDENBURY GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council

Held on Wednesday 24th April 2024 at 7.30pm in a private room at The Barneby Inn

Present: Councillors: Jane Berwick, Becca Libby, Hugh Farey, Alex Gerrard, John Hulse (Chair), Pete Jones, Massie Piggott

In attendance: Bruce Baker Ward Councillor, 1 resident

1. **Apologies for absence:** Vicky Hancock Parish Clerk
2. **Declarations of interest and written requests for dispensation:** Councillor Gerrard Item10
3. **To consider the minutes of the previous meeting:** Parish Council Meeting 27th March 2024. It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes and these were signed by the Chairman.

4. Open Session

- Views of local residents –
 - A resident reported persistent flooding on the A44 opposite Bredenbury Primary School and questioned if it could be a blocked drain. Clerk to contact BBLP.
 - Cllr Berwick reported that she has received questions regarding the smell of sewage on footpath WK1. Clerk to investigate further.
 - The security lights located at Bredenbury Primary School are still not set up properly. Clerk to contact school to explain the issue.
 - Brockington Grange Mews have made direct contact with both BBLP and Herefordshire Council regarding potholes on the bridleway GB3 to ask if repairs could be carried out.

4.2 Ward Councillor Baker gave a brief update

- Herefordshire Local Plan 2021-2041 is underway. Herefordshire have been set a target to build 16000 houses to meet national requirements. Two Bromyard sites are being considered. Bodenham has been designated as a 'Rural Hub' in the draft plans. Bredenbury has been designated as a 'Service Settlement' (see item 11)
- There have been several assaults reported on traffic wardens in Herefordshire
- Ofsted reported that Children's Services is still inadequate after the last inspection
- An appointment has been made for a new head of planning
- £57k has been given to libraries to buy 'tablets'
- 'Marches Partnership' held their first meeting
- The lease at Hereford FC football ground has been renewed
- £10m has been received from central government to address road improvements

The Chairman thanked Ward Cllr Baker for his update.

5. Budget Monitoring

5.1 Final Budget Expenditure for 2023-24. Total expenditure to March 31st 2024 £10,670.26. Noted and signed by Cllr Hulse.

5.2 April budget monitoring sheet was reviewed and APPROVED. Total expenditure £520.81 (Appendix i). Noted and signed by Cllr Hulse

6. Finance

- Bank statement to 31st March closing balance £13,819.86. Noted and signed by Cllr Jones.

- Bank Control Account 31st March 2024 was reviewed. Balance including outstanding cheque payments £13,234.89. Noted and signed by Cllr Jones.
- Cash book Expenditure/Income 2023/2024 Item deferred.
- It was **RESOLVED** to agree the following payments:
 - 6..1 Autela Payroll Q4 23/24 HMRC EOY £73.73
 - 6..2 Clerk's April Salary note assessment report re: Workplace Pension
 - 6..3 V Hancock Mileage NatWest Bank £14.85
 - 6..4 J Hulse mileage NDP meeting £15.75

7. Standing Orders Review. All councillors have read and understood the Standing Orders and the review was **AGREED** with no changes.

8. Audit 2023-24 Papers delivered to Internal Auditors.

9. PROW & maps Cllr Farey has provided a map showing all Public Rights of Way and designated U & C roads

10. Lengthsman Having advertised the vacancy for the position of lengthsman on the Parish Council noticeboards one application had been received. This was from Cllr Gerrard. The Parish Council has received advice that a Parish Councillor can act in the role of lengthsman as the position is as a contractor and not a direct employee.

It was **RESOLVED** to offer the role to Cllr Gerrard subject to the necessary contractual issues and also an audit of health and safety. Cllr Jones agreed to conduct the contractual discussions and the H & S review.

11. Local Plan

Cllr Hulse and the Parish Clerk have attended a meeting with the Herefordshire Council Neighbourhood Planning team. The Draft Local Plan sets out housing targets such that one third is allocated to Hereford city, one third to market towns (including Bromyard) and one third to the rural areas. However, unlike the previous Core Strategy the rural targets are focused on so called "rural hubs and service settlements" with the remainder of the county being treated as open countryside.

It would appear that the designation of Bredenbury as a Service Settlement would allow our existing housing targets, policies and settlement boundary to continue. In addition, it is clear that Neighbourhood Plans require renewal after five years. As such the renewal of the Bredenbury Neighbourhood Plan and the development of the emerging Local Plan can progress coincidentally.

12. West Mercia Police Community Charter Item deferred.

13. Road Safety

13.1 Village Gates The structure contract has been signed and S171 document completed. Awaiting news of when the installation can be done.

13.2 Cattle grids on Butterley Lane. Ward Cllr Baker still making enquiries regarding these. Cllr Farey to send what3words positions to Ward Cllr Baker.

13.3 The section at the foot of Wacton Lane remains closed and the work that has been carried out is inadequate and the bridleway and field access remain inaccessible. To contact BBLP

13.4 A44 Traffic Safety Group. Cllr Jones reported that the group was still trying to get funding for Speed Indicator Devices.

14. Village Hall Cllr Hulse reported the hall should be ready for the forthcoming elections Thursday 2nd May. Cllr Hulse commented that there had been significant contributions, both financial and practical, that have been made to enable this work to be carried out. Following discussion at the previous meeting it was RESOLVED to donate a further £500 towards the cost of the project.

15. Matters for the next meeting: Local Plan, Audit, Road Safety, Village Hall, West Mercia Community Charter, Lengthsman

16. Dates of next meetings agreed:

Wednesday 29th May Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

Wednesday 26th June @7pm

Wednesday 31st July @ 7pm

Meeting closed at 8.11pm