*7-2021*

**WEOBLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of the Weobley Parish Council Meeting held at Hopelands Village Hall, Weobley, HR4 8SN on Tuesday 27th July 2021 commencing at 7:00pm.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councillors L Anderson (Chair), J Simons (Vice Chair), A Apps, C Breen, P Lloyd, C Mills, H Quinlan and C Saunders (2 Vacancies*).*

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Clerk to the Council – Romily Giddens, Ward Cllr Jones and one member of the public.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

No apologies for absence were received.

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND WRITTEN REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION**

There were none received.

1. **CO-OPTION**

Council **NOTED** that there are 2 vacancies on the Council. There had been interest from 3 members of the public but no applications had been received. Council **RESOLVED** to send a follow up email to the interested members.

1. **MINUTES**
   1. It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 29th June 2021 be agreed and signed as a correct record.
2. **OPEN SESSION**
   1. **Police Report** - The Police were not present but the following report had been received and was read by the Clerk:

* 01/07/2021 – Police received a report of criminal damage in the Burton Wood area. Someone had supposedly poured fuel over a hedge into the victim’s garden. There was no further damage caused and that was the entire report – local police visited the victim to gain more information and provide reassurance. There were no lines of enquiry for investigation.
* 05/07/2021 – Police received a report saying children of school age were carrying and shooting an air rifle. The children were named and local police spoke with those involved. Those responsible claim that they are no longer in possession of the air rifle and so there would be no further reports. On this note, please can local police be contacted should young adults or children be spotted with an air rifle, because if so then it would suggest that they are in fact still in possession of it.
* 14/07/2021 – Police received a report that on the main road near the scout hut, a young man or child was on a motorbike with no helmet on. Information was limited and he did not seem to be acting in an anti-social way, however the report did state the male going up and down repeatedly. Unfortunately, we weren’t able to identify the male involved.
* 20/07/2021 – Not in Weobley, but in the area of Pembridge there was an incident of criminal damage whereby an unknown person has cut a wire connecting to an oil tank on someone’s land. There are unfortunately no lines of enquiry for this incident, with no other damage caused, so an unknown motivation.
* Finally, scams are very common right now, although there is no one particular scam doing the rounds, please advise your elderly and vulnerable members of the community to be extra vigilant when receiving phone calls from people they don’t know. Also, be very wary when clicking on links in emails, or following links in a text message as these are common ways to part individuals with their personal data and banking details. If there’s anyone you suspect is at risk of being scammed, or anyone who you think could do with some help identifying a scam I’d be more than happy to visit them and offer some advice.
* As usual, your local policing team are contactable when on-duty on our work mobile phones:
* PC Dean Wall 07773053846
* PCSO Felix Rawlinson 07971051480
* PCSO Emma Dunne 07971051474
  1. **Ward Councillor Report** – The following report was received from Ward Cllr Jones:
* Following the ward council election win for the conservatives at Newton Farm, the council is made up of 14 conservative members, 19 Independents of Herefordshire formed out of IOC and Hereford Independents, 7 Liberals, 7 Greens, 5 True Independents and 1 un-aligned member.
* The council has written off debts of £571,000. The council have tried to recover these outstanding debts but have written them off after no possibility of collection. In the financial year ending March 2021 the council had an over spend of £38,000 on a revenue budget of £157 million. Borrowing by the council had reduced by £3 million on the year. This was a good result given that there were £16 million in un-budgeted costs as a result from the pandemic.
* The Cabinet have voted to allocate £1.24 million pounds to the Hereford Transport strategy, £400,000 for the Eastern Bridge, £300,000 for electric buses £330,000 for walking and cycling.
* Hereford planning land supply figures have now risen to 6.9 years well over the target of 5 years set out in the adopted core strategy. This has risen from 4.69 years in January and adds considerable weight to NDP set out by Parish councils. This will help prevent unplanned developments which may have actually helped the council exceed its 5-year target level.
* Over 3,600 pupils will receive free school meals over the summer holidays which will be administered through the schools.
* The full Council meeting scheduled for the 23rd July at the Three Counties Hotel was cancelled. The decision was taken having consulted all the relevant group leaders. Costs of hiring the venue plus concerns on safe social distancing are two of the main reasons for this decision.
* Locally the planning application for an integrated wetland at the Dilwyn sewage treatment plant has been with-drawn. This was to address the phosphate levels in the River Lugg catchment. The size of the wetland area was bigger than needed for Dilwyn which would have allowed for future growth in and around Dilwyn.
  1. **Local residents** – The following issues were raised:
* Offer to repaint historic fire hydrants dotted around the village. The Council were thankful for this offer but **RESOLVED** to initially check with Welsh Water/Fire Brigade about ownership and usage.
* The turning circle at the school had become overgrown and was therefore, in need of maintenance. The Council **RESOLVED** to forward this request onto the Highways department of Herefordshire Council.

1. **FINANCE**
   1. **Payment schedule** –

Council **RATIFIED** the following payments relating to July 2021 as outlined below:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **PAYEE** | **SERVICE** | **CHEQUE** | **TOTAL** |
| Autela | April – June Payroll | Cheque 1686 | £50.40 |
| E.M.Davis | Donation Plaque | Cheque 1687 | £35.00 |
| West Mercia Energy | Rose Garden Electricity | DD | £13.95 |
| West Mercia Energy | Back Lane Toilets Electricity | DD | £16.93 |
| West Mercia Energy | Library Electricity | DD | £73.14 |
|  |  |  | **£189.42** |

Council **APPROVED** the payment of accounts relating to June 2021 as outlined below:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **PAYEE** | **SERVICE** | **CHEQUE** | **TOTAL** |
| Combined Playground Services Ltd | Play Area Inspection | Cheque 1688 | £350.00 |
| Romily Giddens | Clerk Salary July 2021 | Cheque 1689 | £392.60 |
| Romily Giddens | Clerk’s expenses (2 months printing subscription) | Cheque 1689 | £19.98 |
| P Lloyd (David Austin) | Rose Garden Plant Food | Cheque 1690 | £15.00 |
| P Lloyd (Oakchurch) | Doff Tomato Food – Rose Garden | Cheque 1690 | £6.98 |
| Ian Wilkinson | Repairs to Bell Square Car park | Cheque 1691 | £25.00 |
| L Anderson (Turtle Engineering) | Replacement Defib Pads x 2 | Cheque 1692 | £90.14 |
| HALC | Internal Audit for 2020-21 | Cheque 1693 | £240.00 |
| Broxap | 3 x Bench for Play Area | Cheque 1694 | £2,535.60 |
| C Breen (Leominster Building Supplies) | Wood for Play Area Repairs | Cheque 1695 | £2.95 |
| C Breen (Amazon) | Weed Killer Play Area | Cheque 1695 | £20.00 |
| C Breen (Amazon) | Safety Net Plastic Nut Covers | Cheque 1695 | £7.99 |
| C Breen (Tudors) | Wood for Maintenance/Repairs in Play Area | Cheque 1695 | £96.00 |
| C Breen (Leominster Building Supplies) | 3 x Plugs for Xmas Lights | Cheque 1695 | £4.47 |
| C Breen (ScrewFix) | Self-Drill Screws | Cheque 1695 | £8.00 |
| C Breen (Ron Smith & Co) | Knob for Control Lever on Mower | Cheque 1695 | £11.66 |
| C Breen (Leominster Building Supplies) | Washers to prevent picnic tables being moved | Cheque 1695 | £3.45 |
| C Breen (Wickes) | Screws to fix plaque to table | Cheque 1695 | £4.07 |
|  |  |  | **£3,833.89** |

* 1. **April – June 2021 Bank Reconciliation** – Council **NOTED** the bank reconciliation for the 3-month period. Expenditure for the period totalled £34,608.57 and Receipts totalled £19,418.94.

1. **PLANNING**

**Planning applications -** It was **RESOLVED** to make the following comments on applications to be determined by Herefordshire Council:

**APPLICATION:** P212712 (On the border between Weobley and Dilwyn)

**SITE:** Dilwyn, Weobley, Building and land at Whitehill Weobley Herefordshire HR4 8QY

**DESCRIPTION:** Application for prior approval for the proposed demolition of a B1(c) building and erection of a dwelling/house

**COMMENT:** No Comment.

**APPLICATION:** P212621

**SITE:** Weobley, Weobley, Five Bars Hereford Road Weobley Hereford Herefordshire HR4 8SW

**DESCRIPTION:** Proposed works to Conifer (T1) - fell because it has outgrown its position

**COMMENT:** No objections.

**APPLICATION:** P212189

**SITE:** Weobley, Weobley, Moss Field Back Lane Weobley Hereford HR4 8SG

**DESCRIPTION:** Proposed construction of new 4 bedroom dwelling & garage.

**COMMENT:** Council **RESOLVED** to delegate the final comment to the Clerk, after liaison with Planning Working Group.

1. **PARISH MAINTENANCE**
   1. **Lengthsman Tasks –**. Council **NOTED** that a tree in Bearcroft was in need of pruning and **RESOLVED** to get a quote for this work. Cllr Lloyd declared a personal interest in this.
   2. **Town Ditch –** The Council **NOTED** that the path running alongside the Town Ditch had deteriorated further and was in need of repair. The Council **RESOLVED** to liaise with relevant parties about this and update at the next meeting.
2. **BONFIRE NIGHT**

After a detailed discussion about location, safety and logistical concerns, in addition to potential government restrictions relating to COVID-19, the Council **RESOLVED** to cancel the 2021 Fireworks night event.

1. **LIBRARY/MUSEUM**

Council **NOTED** that contractors, Royston Davies, were still working on the Library/Museum building. Council **NOTED** that both the Museum and the Library had now reopened.

1. **NMDC**

The Council received and **NOTED** an update regarding the National Model Design Code (NMDC) pilot consultation process that Weobley had been selected to participate in. Cllrs Anderson and Simons expressed that although it had been a time consuming process, it had left the Council better equipped for future developments relating to the NDP.

1. **PLAY AREA**

The Council **NOTED** the update on the play area which included the reveal of the new ‘Play Area Team’ (P.A.T) logo and an explanation about the removal of the play area ‘pyramid’ due to ongoing maintenance costs. Cllrs agreed to Cllr Apps’ proposal to design and have made visual display boards for both the Play Area and Parish Council for exhibition at the Welcome to Weobley event at the village hall on 11th September *(cost £15 per board?)* Cllr Simons agreed to investigate the option and cost of creating an external access to the village hall disabled toilet to provide facilities for Play Area and Skate Park users.

1. **WEBSITE AND NEWSLETTER**

The Council **NOTED** that the final draft version of the newsletter was ready for review. The council thanked Cllr Apps for all his time and effort spent on updating the two websites and the creation of the newsletter. Council **RESOLVED** to print 800 copies at a cost of £422.00.

1. **INFORMATION SHEET**

Council **NOTED** that the following correspondence had been received:

* Annual Canvass – July 2021
* Parish Council Summit Invitation – July 2021
* Herefordshire Locality Steward update – July 2021
* Council Covid-19 updates – July 2021
* Talk Community updates – July 2021
* Recruitment to the Magistracy – July 2021
* Information Corner HALC – July 2021
* ‘Gadbridge Road’ road closure – July 2021

1. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Council **NOTED** that the next meeting of the Council would be held on **Tuesday 28th September 2021** at 7.00pm in Hopelands Village Hall, Weobley, HR4 8SN.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.10pm.

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**CHAIR: DATE:**