

2010/07

MINUTES of a Meeting of Wellington Heath Parish Council held in The Peter Garnett Room, Memorial Hall, Wellington Heath on Tuesday, 30th March 2010 at 7.30pm.

PRESENT – P. Adams (in the Chair –PA) R. Hurley (RH) H. Ransome-Williams (HRW) J.Jones (JJ) and Cllr. Roy Stockton (RS).

APOLOGIES for inability to attend the meeting were received and approved from W. Hill due to holiday arrangements and J. Harrison due to a business commitment.

- **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** in items on the Agenda – None received.

MINUTES – The Minutes of the Meeting held on 23rd February 2010 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

PROGRESS REPORT –

Transition Villages – In the absence of Wendy Hill, no report available.

Safe walking footway into Ledbury – The Chairman advised Roy Stockton of the present situation and the problems which had arisen with regard to this proposal, which had formed part of the Parish Plan. He advised that Mairead Lane had visited and promised that a survey would be carried out, but no survey results had been forthcoming. The Chairman advised that he had recently spoken to Chris Powell from Herefordshire Council and RS agreed to chase the matter up and report back.

- **P3 Scheme** – RH advised that the completed paperwork had been returned to Herefordshire Council before the due date, and confirmed that the balance in hand was £9.70 out of last year's budget. The Contract has been renewed for the current year with an expected allowance of £505. A considerable amount of work was planned for the future, and he reported that both he and the Footpath Officer were attending a training session. Thanks were expressed for the excellent work carried out on the footpaths in the Parish.
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- **Geopark Notice Board and Finger post** – RH advised that part of the new notice board had been erected that day and that the work should be completed in the near future. The finger post had been returned as the post was too short, but that work would also be completed at the same time.
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- **Welcome sign to the Village** – Due to pressure of work, it was reported that J. Newby had not yet re-erected the sign.
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- **Salt Sprayer** – RH advised very little progress made, but hopefully a report would be available at the next meeting.
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- **The Pleck** – Nothing further to report – work has ceased due to the “bird nesting season”. The Chairman updated RS on proposals for The Pleck and the situation regarding ownership of the land.
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- **Replacement seat at the top of The Common** – This has been ordered and paid for, with delivery to Wendy Hill. The Clerk confirmed she had advised Ledbury Fencing their Quotation for the work had been accepted.

Bus liaison – In the absence of WH, the Chairman advised that the meeting was due to take place on Thursday 1st April at 12.30 in The Farmers Arms when it was hoped that many residents who joined the bus at this collection and drop off point would attend to give their support.

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Hedges around Village – Whilst it was agreed that in the past Jim Green had cut many of the hedges around the Village, it had been discovered that he was in fact cutting many hedges which were not the responsibility of the Parish Council, and in the past, one Chairman of the PC had been contacted by a local farmer who was extremely upset that his hedge had been cut without his permission. The matter over hedge cutting had since been put on a more structured basis.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION –

Parish Meeting – It was agreed to hold the Annual Parish Meeting at The Farmers Arms on Wednesday 19th May at 7.30pm, with refreshments provided. JJ agreed to print and post the Notices and the Clerk agreed to contact Ian Rowatt from Malvern Hills AONB to see if he would attend as a Speaker. It was also agreed to run a raffle and RS kindly agreed to give a bottle of wine for the raffle. The venue for the Parish Meeting was put to the vote at either the Memorial Hall or The Farmers Arms resulting in two votes for each venue resulting in the Chairman using his casting vote

Payment of Clerk by monthly Standing Order – On a proposal by PA seconded by JJ and carried, it was agreed that the Clerk should be paid monthly by standing order commencing in the new financial year commencing April 2010 thus avoiding doubling up payments when the Council did not meet in August and December. A Bank Mandate was signed accordingly.

Condition of Area outside Old School House near Post Box – It was agreed the Clerk ask Highways whether they owned the verge, and if so, to ask them if they would be prepared to form a lay-by at this point to clean up the area in front of both the notice board and the post box.

FINANCIAL MATTERS – The following Accounts had been received, and were approved for payment following a proposal by PA, seconded by RH and carried.

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| • Lengthsman – | £50.00. |
| • J. Newby, work under P3 Scheme | £200.00. |
| • Ledbury Team Ministry, laminating charge | £9.60. |
| • Clerk balance salary & expenses to year end | £235.86. |
- RH reported that the annual allowance from Herefordshire Council for the Lengthsman contract was due to be reduced to £945.

- **RESOLVED** - on a proposal by RH, seconded by HRW and carried, it was agreed to renew the Lengthsman Contract for the coming year despite the reduction in the allowance.
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- RH also advised receipt of letter from Ledbury Fencing with regard to the grass cutting Contract.
- **RESOLVED** – On a proposal by RH, seconded by HRW and carried, it was agreed to renew his Contract for the coming year on the same basis as the previous year.

REPORTS -

- **MEMORIAL HALL** – Repairs carried out as required, waiting for weather to improve for the base to be laid for the new storage facility, new banner support fixed, approval given for display board within the hall for the Geopark Trail, looking for assistance to sift through paperwork and decide what should be archived and how and where it should be kept (RG offered to assist). HR-W agreed to advise what records were held by the Church. Broadband and TV licence have been terminated, spring fayre to be held in May and committee were seeking a Quotation for the fitting of the new worktop in the kitchen which was long overdue.

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- **PLANNING** – RH advised two applications had been considered –
- Woodfields, Floyds Lane – ***proposed two storey dwelling and new access*** – objections had been raised and the Parish Council have since been advised that this has been refused.
- Pippins, Horse Road – ***proposed replacement garage with en-suite over, upgrade dormers, new windows and veranda to front of dwelling*** – no objections raised.
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- **NEWSLETTER** – RH advised deadline for next edition was 12th April. With regard to printing, the
- Clerk agreed to ascertain who carried out the printing for Colwall Parish Council and make enquiries for the future printing of the Wellington Heath Newsletter.
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- **CORRESPONDENCE** –
- **Letter** - SLCC regarding half day course on playground safety.
- **Letter** - Herefordshire Council regarding Lengthsman, advising reduction in funding.

- **Notification** from Ledbury Area Older People's Forum General election – question the Candidates time.
- **ROSPA inspection of Play Area** – Clerk had previously spoken to RH who advised he wished to accompany the Council when the inspection was carried out. This had been arranged.
- **Planning - various** reports on items refused, withdrawn or approved.
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LITERATURE – File handed to Councillors for circulation.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME – None in attendance.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING – Safe walking footway, SIDS, land in front of Post Box, final plans for the Annual Parish meeting. Bus meeting and usual update on various outstanding issues.

Cllr. Roy Stockton reported on the re-structuring of the Planning Authority which was now covered by one main planning unit giving Planning Officers the opportunity for more decision making rather than the previous area sub-Committees. He also reported that new developments were coming up for consideration in both Colwall and Cradley and advised that the Hereford Edgar Street grid had taken a further step forward which included the possible construction of up to 8,000 houses.

Cllr. Stockton reported that Cllr. Rees Mills had formally retired as District Councillor due to ill health which would result in a Local Election taking place at the same time as the General Election.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.45pm.

Signed - P.Adams.

Dated – 27th April 2010.

Chairman.