

**MINUTES** of a Meeting of Wellington Heath Parish Council held on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2011 in the Peter Garnett Room at the Memorial Hall Wellington Heath at 7.30pm.

**PRESENT** – P. Adams (PA - in the Chair) R. Hurley (RH) W.Hill (WH)  
H.Ransome- Williams (HRW) J. Jones (JJ) Hamish Skinner (HS – Tree Warden),  
Cllr. T. Johnson (TJ) and one member of the public.

**APOLOGIES** for inability to attend the meeting had been received from J. Harrisson for family reasons.

**MINUTES** – The Minutes of the Meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2010 were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chairman.

**PROGRESS REPORTS** –

**The Pleck** – (The Chairman declared a personal interest) HS advised that further sessions had been carried out and advised that new growth was now coming through. Various trees had been attended to, one or two new trees proposed and some hedge laying had been carried out. Three local children had been involved and it was agreed to put an article in the Newsletter to this effect. The Chairman thanked HS for his continued work. JJ agreed to speak to some land owners regarding hedges overhanging on the road, particularly outside the old School.

**Salt Spreader** – Following further heavy snow falls in December 2010, it was agreed the Parish Council would consider the purchase of a "salt spreader" for use around the Parish following an article to be inserted in the Newsletter to this effect. TJ advised he would raise the gritting and clearance on bus routes at a Budget meeting which he would shortly be attending. The PC were also to endeavour to obtain more salt bins in particular by the Church and outside the Village Hall. ***HS left the meeting.***

**The Bench** – Following numerous e-mails and telephone calls the Bench had now been collected for repair by the suppliers.

**Pool Piece Culvert** – The culvert has now been cleared and a new 5' gate installed.

**Bus Service** – Nothing further to report apart from blockage of the route caused by a lorry parked on the roadside. TJ reported cuts to local bus services were not proposed, but better useage should be encouraged to help out with the costs. Further article to be put in the Newsletter about the use of the bus service.

**Review of Parish Plan** – Item put in the Newsletter about a review of Parish Plan which would shortly be five years old. It was also proposed to raise this at the Parish Meeting in an attempt to seek a group to review the existing plan in conjunction with two/three Parish Councillors, the Group to be chaired from elsewhere in the Village. TJ advised the Localism Bill had been discussed at County level with a lot of informal discussion taking place but clear guidance was awaited from Central Government. Lots of training will be required for devolution of powers.

### **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION** –

**Safe Walking Footway** – Confirmed a meeting taking place at The Frith on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2011 with Mr. & Mrs. Bickham, Mel Preedy from HALC, a Highways Engineer from Herefordshire Council and it was hoped a representative from Ledbury Town Council would also attend. TJ confirmed he also planned to attend the meeting.

**P3 Scheme** – RH advised hand rail to Oakeys Lane now completed and following a repair to the strimmer, approximately £50. remained in the Budget for this year. It was agreed to purchase paint for the steps at The Steep with this £50. painting to be carried out later in the year when weather improved.

**May Elections** – The Clerk advised on key dates for the elections on the 5<sup>th</sup> May 2011 as recommended by Herefordshire Council.

**Signs at Oaktree and Raycombe Lane** – Following traffic concerns raised during the Parish Walk with representatives from Amey, votes were taken on road signage around the Oak tree, and also at Raycombe Lane –

**RESOLVED** – On a proposal by PA, seconded by JJ and carried, it was agreed the Parish Council request a stop sign at the junction of Raycombe Lane with the main road at the top of The Common.

**RESOLVED** – On a proposal by PA seconded by RH with three to two votes in favour, it was agreed the Parish Council request two stops signs be erected at the junction of Ledbury Road/Petty France Lane by the Oak tree.

**Signature of Cheques between meetings** – The Clerk advised that cheques should only be signed at Parish Council meetings. However, it was agreed by all Councillors that where expenditure had been previously sanctioned and agreed for work to be carried out by local Traders, they were happy for this action to continue.

### **FINANCIAL MATTERS** –

The following Accounts had been received for payment -

- Ledbury Fencing, hand rail at Oakeys Lane £385.00.
- Ledbury Fencing, new gate at Pool Piece  
£95.00.
- Lengthsman, duties for December 2010 & January 2011  
£100.00.
- R. Hurley, expenditure under P3 Scheme £53.80.
- Clerk, expenses – October to December 2010  
£38.19.

On a proposal by PA seconded by WH and carried, cheques were signed and original Invoices initialled.

### **REPORTS** –

**Memorial Hall** – JJ advised two meetings had taken place with issues raised concerning updating the sound system, small items of maintenance had been carried out, looking at solar panels with a meeting proposed for the beginning of February, training for first aid proposed if sufficient people interested, WADS working party had cleaned up (showing a net profit of £1,000 with £200. going to the Village Hall Committee) painting of the back wall of the stage being considered and a proposal for a “street party” in the Village Hall for the Royal Wedding in April.

- **Planning** – RH advised one application had been considered for proposed extension and demolition of existing brick out-house at Upland Cottage, Burtons Lane to which no objections had been raised. He also advised on previous applications received which had been passed and that an agricultural equipment store at Priors Court did not require approval.
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- **Newsletter** – Latest edition had gone to press last week. Next edition due in May with closing date of 14<sup>th</sup> April 2011.

