

MINUTES of a Meeting of Wellington Heath Parish Council held on Tuesday 29th November 2011 in the Peter Garnett Room at The Memorial Hall commencing at 7.30pm. **PRESENT** – P. Adams (in the Chair – PA) R. Hurley (RH) J. Jones (JJ) W. Hill (WH) V. Leeds (VL) and J.Harrisson (JH). Also present was District Cllr. C. Attwood (CA).

MINUTES – the Minutes of the meeting held on 25th October 2011 were taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – None received.

REPORT by District Councillor – CA reported that it was hoped to hold a meeting of the proposed Cluster Group before Christmas, and the Chairman felt that the formation of this Group would be beneficial. CA also reported on budget cuts for the NHS and the benefits of the new Broadband facility in the County.

PROGRESS REPORTS –

Safe Walking Footway – PA advised nothing further to report.

Notice boards – A Quotation had been received from Chris Hopkins for £1,190 for the supply of two notice boards. Jeremy Newby has advised on aluminium notice boards from “Green Magic” but it was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council only wished to supply wooden notice boards. The Clerk was to pursue the possibility of a Grant towards a notice board to celebrate the Queens Golden Jubilee.

With regard to the Horse Road Notice Board, Jeremy Newby had quoted “about £60” to alter the approach to the Board, and it was agreed that JJ would obtain more quotations for presentation at the January 2012 meeting.

Mobile Library – WH advised nothing further to report but advised that someone using the new home delivery service was quite happy with it.

Play Area – In an attempt to secure a suitable site for a level play area, the Chairman agreed that he would talk in person to Mr. Allsop about the use of his land and also speak with Gavin James about land opposite the Church. JJ agreed to meet with Mr. Cobb to discuss the possible use of his land, with full reports back in January.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION –

Queen’s Jubilee – An item had appeared in the Newsletter, one offer received to make cakes. WH suggested mugs for school children and JJ agreed to ask if the Hall Committee would contribute half towards this cost. A party at The Farmers Arms was also suggested with perhaps the Parish Council contributing towards the expense.

WH agreed to pursue the possibility of a “Book of the Village” containing photographs of residents in their home which could perhaps be included in a special edition of the Newsletter and advised that she would report back at the January 2012 meeting.

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Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group – The Chairman explained the process of the Neighbourhood Plan, and that although this was not compulsory, it was considered that it would be extremely beneficial to the Parish. The Plan would enable the Parish Council to put forward projects for consideration which would fit in with the Local Development Framework, including the possible use of land within the Parish for various uses. The Chairman asked Councillors to consider any members of the Parish they considered would be willing to join the Steering Group. The Group would also consist of some members of the Parish Council, and he confirmed that he and RH had talked to Mike Baine regarding the formation of the Group. Once it had been agreed to form a Neighbourhood Plan, Herefordshire Council would organise a Referendum.

Localism Act – The Clerk had forwarded copies to all Councillors and it was agreed to report in the Newsletter that the Parish Council are awaiting further information on the Act which will hand power back to the Parish Council on many local issues.

Welcome Party – This had been arranged for Saturday 10th December 2011 at 11am in the Memorial Hall. Parish Council agreed to supply drinks including mulled wine which JJ kindly agreed to purchase. It was confirmed the Memorial Hall Committee were supplying food for the event.

Grant towards cards for Village Website – It was reported that a new website had been launched which appears very useable. Mike Baine had asked for a contribution of £30. towards the cost of cards advertising the new website.

RESOLVED – On a proposal by PA seconded by JH and carried, it was agreed the Parish Council would make the requested donation towards the cost of the cards.

Winter Awareness – It was confirmed that all the grit bins in the Parish are full.

FINANCIAL MATTERS –

Budget/Precept for 2012/13 – The Clerk had circulated the proposals drawn up by the Finance Committee, resulting in a proposed precept of £7,400. for 2012/13.

RESOLVED – On a proposal by RH seconded by WH and carried, the Council agreed the figures as drawn. It was agreed the Parish Council would consider the new regulations regarding “People proofed Budgets” for future years.

Accounts for payment – The following Accounts had been received for payment –

- Inland Revenue, PAYE for November & December £96.40.
- Memorial Hall, hire fees £72.00.
- Cllr. W. Hill, travel expenses £24.00.
- R. Hurley, repayment of P3 expenses £25.49.
- Aspect Design, printing charges £246.00.
- Ledbury Fencing, Lengthsman charges £75.00.
- Clerk, expenses & allowances £103.00.

RESOLVED – On a proposal by WH seconded by JH and carried, these Accounts were approved for payment.

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REPORTS –

Memorial Hall – JJ advised door codes had been changed, outstanding keys should be returned to Ian Mackie, wages for cleaner had been increased and increased charges for rent were being monitored in case there was an adverse effect on bookings. Quotations being obtained for maintenance, brackets for projectors have been installed in Committee room, plans for Welcome Party in hand, recent events successful and an event being planned in February for children.

Planning – RH reported on recent planning applications which had been considered and handed to Councillors on the Planning Committee the CPRE 8 step guide for responding to planning applications. RH outlined the proposals Herefordshire Council had drawn up for future applications to be dealt with electronically.

P3 Scheme – Nothing further to report; small amount of funds left in Budget. Report form awaited from Herefordshire Council after which a meeting to discuss the claim for funding for next year would be arranged.

HALC – WH reported she had recently attended meeting, but advised that at the end of the financial year she did not wish to stand again as the Parish Council’s Representative. She considered that the training offered by HALC was worthwhile, and considered it should be more regularly attended. Clerk to invite Chief Executive of HALC, Lynda Wilcox to attend a meeting on the Neighbourhood Plan and other issues in March 2012.

Newsletter – Closing date of 15th January 2012 for the February issue.

Bus Service – Nothing adverse to report.

Correspondence – Letter from Herefordshire Council regarding Precept for 2012/13, Order form for Jubilee Commemorative mugs, letter from Herefordshire Wildlife trusts regarding proposed ponds network project, letter from Worcestershire County Council advising joint advisory committee meeting on 2nd December 2011 in Mathon Village Hall and advice from Living Villages sustainable & resilient Communities advising meeting on 2nd December 2011 at Withington Village Hall. Notification of various training available from HALC in December.

Literature – current file handed to RH.

Councillor’s Reports and future Agenda items to include usual updates, the “best kept village” sign (RH) road safety report (JH) and dog fouling (JH).

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 10pm.
Next meeting to take place on Tuesday 31st January 2012.

P. Adams

31.01.12.

Signed..... Chairman. Dated.....