

MINUTES of a meeting of Wellington Heath Parish Council held on Tuesday 26th November 2013 in The Memorial Hall commencing at 7.30pm.

Present – Cllrs. R. Hurley (in the Chair - RH) P. Adams (PA) J. Jones (JJ) and W. Hill (WH).

Apologies for inability to attend were received and approved from V. Leeds and M. Low.

Minutes – The Minutes of the meeting held on 29th October 2013 were taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

Declarations of Interest in items on the Agenda – none declared.

County Councillor Report – Unfortunately neither County Councillor were able to attend the meeting but the Clerk had printed off the latest report from Cllr. T. Johnson and included this item in the Literature folder.

Progress Reports –

- 1) Cluster Group – PA had circulated the Minutes from the last meeting of the Group and confirmed that although the Chairman of the Cluster Group had resigned from his Parish Council, he still remained chairman of the Cluster Group until their AGM. Although PA had also today resigned from this Parish Council, he urged the Council to remain part of the Cluster Group particularly given the fact that Wellington Heath might have to provide up to twenty four houses to be built in the Parish before 2031. PA added that in addition to the Cluster Group, the Parish Council should also consider adopting a Neighbourhood Plan (NP) which would enable the Council to have more control over development within the Parish and where future development should take place. He considered that the proposed development in Ledbury north of the Viaduct would have an impact on Wellington Heath and advised that there was further discussions about the provision of a supermarket in the centre of Ledbury town. He finally confirmed there was no further information on fracking in the area.
RH confirmed that V. Leeds had taken over the role of the Parish Council Representative on the Cluster Group and also agreed that within the next couple of years the Parish Council should consider an NP possibly involving other parishes within the Cluster Group but in the meantime should press ahead with the action plans of the recently reviewed Parish Plan.
- 2) Pool Piece – ground being left to settle until the spring when it would be decided what play equipment to put on the land. The Chairman confirmed he had received some hedging plants donated by the Woodland Trust for filling in gaps in the hedges.
- 3) Parish Plan Review – meeting at the Memorial Hall on the 27th to finalise the Parish Plan Review Report based on findings in the Questionnaire which it was hoped would be circulated to Parishioners before Christmas. A meeting in the New Year would address proposals for a new action plan.

Items for consideration –

- 1) Budget/Precept for 2014/15 – the proposals had been advertised on the local notice boards and the Clerk reported that she had not received any queries over the proposed budget for the year following receipt of a suggested precept of £7.400
Resolved – On a proposal by PA seconded by WH and carried, it was agreed to adopt the Budget for the year 2014/15 and the Chairman signed a formal request for a precept of £7.400 for the year.
- 2) Audit – all Councillors had read the Terms and conditions of appointment drawn up by Greendawn Accounting Ltd. following the retirement of the Internal Auditor Jonathan Andrew.
Resolved – On a proposal by RH seconded by JJ and carried the Chairman signed the Acceptance Form and handed this to the Clerk for submission to Greendawn Accounting Ltd.

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- 3) P3 proposed works – consent to various works had been obtained from local land owners, although this work had now been postponed following an accident on a footpath at the bottom of Dogberry Field where a parishioner had lost her footing and grabbed hold onto barbed wire. The footpath officer had visited the site and is providing a handrail and posts and recommends levelling and flattening the footpath. Quotation being obtained from Ledbury Fencing for the work and it is hoped that this will be done before Christmas. All Councillors in agreement with this prioritised work schedule.
- 4) HALC EAM meetings – Clerk confirmed she had not as yet received the full training programme following on from December 2013 but dates and provisional venues for EAM meetings advised to Councillors and it was hoped that one Representative will attend these local meetings on a regular basis. Provisional venues/dates are as follows –
 - 11th February 2014 – Colwall Village Hall.
 - 13th May 2014 – Munsley Village Hall.
 - 15th July 2014 – Ledbury Town Council Offices.
 - 11th November 2014 – Bosbury Village Hall.

Financial – the Clerk advised the following Accounts had been received for payment –

- HMRC PAYE £113.20 (two cheques signed as no meeting in December, and fines are imposed for late payment).
- Lengthsman expenditure £75.00.
- Truprint media, printing £250.00.
- Print Express (Jan 2013 Invoice) £210.00.
- Herefordshire CAB donation £25.00.
- Clerk's expenses 4 months £116.90.

Resolved – On a proposal by PA seconded by WH and carried these Accounts were approved for payment and cheques signed accordingly.

Reports –

Memorial Hall – JJ advised David Fletcher talk had proved financially beneficial for the Hall, approximately 250 had attended the Halloween party, but the Howden Jones evening was poorly attended and not a success. The Xmas Fayre will take place on 30th November, and the welcome party planned for 7th December. Maintenance of the grounds continue and there has been some damage to the hinges on the storage container. Two large notice boards have been provided for Archive material in the Peter Garnett room. It had been agreed not to increase hire charges for use of the Hall for the time being

Planning – One application received for proposed replacement of collapsed agricultural building with dwelling adjacent to Swallow Farm, Ledbury Road – **no objections raised** but Parish Council of the opinion that the road needs to be reconstructed along the whole section adjacent to the property so that it is self supporting and not reliant on a residential property for support and also that a proper storm water drainage system should be installed on the verge. These road works should be completed before the new dwelling is erected.

Correspondence – Letter of consent received from R. Allsopp to various P3 works on his land.

Literature – file handed to Chairman including lengthy Report from Cllr. T. Johnson on the current financial situation within Herefordshire Council.

Public Question time – attending the meeting were Mr & Mrs David Packman who have recently moved into The Swallows who sought clarification on the Cluster Group.

Councillor Reports – WH said she had been approached by local person concerning the bus service and requested the Parish Council write a letter of thanks to the bus Company. It had also been suggested that the bus should go down The Common on every journey and that although the drivers were happy to do so, Herefordshire Council will consider this next time the service comes up for discussion.

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There being no further business, prior to closing the meeting thanks were expressed to Cllr. Patrick Adams for his service on the Parish Council, including many years as Chairman, and all members of the Council and the Clerk had contributed towards a collection and gift presentation to Cllr. Adams as a show of their appreciation.

Cllr. Adams expressed his thanks to everyone and said he had enjoyed his time on the Parish Council.

Next meeting to take place on 28th January 2014.

R.Hurley
Signed.....
Chairman.

28th January 2014.
Dated.....