

DINEDOR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on 18th March 2021, in accordance with The Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority Meetings) (England) Regulations 2020

Present: Cllr. S. Penny In the Chair
Cllr. N. Austin
Cllr. T. Greenow
Cllr. J. Over

In attendance: Liz Kelso Clerk/RFO
3 members of the public

012/2021 Apologies, declarations of interest and requests for dispensation

There were no apologies. Cllr. Greenow declared in interest in agenda item 7. There were no requests for dispensation

013/2021 Parish Councillor Vacancy

013.1 To note resignation of Cllr. Duncan Green

Members noted with sadness the resignation of Duncan Green as a parish councillor noting that he has served the parish council for many years, several of which were as Chair of the Parish Council. It was agreed that a letter of thanks be sent to him for the very many years of service to the Parish.

013.2 Parish Councillor Co-option

It was noted that a notice of the vacancy has been placed on notice boards inviting members of the public to request an election to fill the vacancy. No such request has been received within the specified period so the parish council is now able to co-opt a candidate. The vacancy will now be further advertised in the newsletter and on notice boards.

014/2021

Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 21st January 2021, which had been previously circulated, were agreed and the Chair authorised to sign the Minutes as a true record of proceedings at that meeting.

015/2021

Public Participation

015.1 Ward Councillor Report

The Ward Councillor was not in attendance so there was no report to consider.

015.2 Matters raised by members of the public in attendance

Members noted the process whereby members of the public can be supplied with special bags for litter picking within the immediate vicinity. A note will be put in the newsletter about this.

Members also noted complaints about mud on the road close to Wye Valley Stud.

016/2021

Clerk's Report

The Clerk's report was noted.

017/2021

Financial Matters

017.1 Payments

The following payments were approved:

- | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| • E. Kelso | | |
| Office expenses | | £121.76 |
| • Acer Tree Services Ltd. | | |
| Tree works at Camp Wood | £1,350.00 | |
| VAT | £270.00 | |
| Total | | £1,620.00 |

017.2 Receipts since the last meeting

There were no receipts since the last meeting.

017.3 Account balances

Members noted a current account balance of £17,845.23

017.4 Budget report

Members noted the budget report as presented to the meeting, showing expenditure to date this financial year, noting that results are broadly in line with expectations. Members raised no queries on expenditure to date or anticipated expenditure for the financial year.

017.5 Appointment of Internal Auditor

The appointment of Mr. Iain Selkirk FCA as independent internal auditor for the Parish Council for the forthcoming year. The anticipated cost for the internal audit for this year is £105.00.

017.6 Amendment to Bank Mandate

It was agreed that following the resignation of Cllr. Duncan Green, that he be removed from the bank `mandate authorising payments on behalf of the parish council. It was further agreed that subject to changing the banking provider (see Minutes 017.7), that all councillors be included as signatories on the account with payments requiring two signatories to authorise payments.

017.7 To confirm change of bank

It was agreed to confirm the decision to move parish council funds from HSBC bank to Unity Bank to enable the parish council to move to online banking as this provider can offer sufficient security to meet the parish councils financial regulations.

017.8 Asset Register

A copy of the asset register had been previously circulated. Members noted and agreed its accuracy.

017.9 Grant Request

Noting current advice from the National Association of Local Councils with regard to grant payments for maintenance of church properties, it was agreed to meet the request for a grant of £495.00 to meet the cost of grass cutting in the churchyard.

017.10 Delegation of authority to act on behalf of the Parish Council

In view of the potential difficulty in holding meetings in the near future as a result of covid restrictions, it was agreed to authorise the Clerk, in consultation with the Chair, to take action on any issue of such urgency that it cannot wait until the next normal meeting of the Council, to include, but not be limited to, incurring expenditure on behalf of the Council which is necessary to carry out any repair, replacement or other work or contractual commitment, subject to a limit of £1,000.00.

018.1 Applications now due for consideration

- Ref: 204208
Site: The Oaks, Dinedor
Dev: Application for approval of reserved matters following 174700

Members noted revisions to the original plans in connection with this application which had previously been considered at the last meeting. After due consideration, it was agreed that there were no further comments to make and confirmed the comments previously submitted to the planning authority.

- Ref: 210297
Site: Land adjacent to Hackford House, Dinedor
Dev: Retrospective application for retention of agricultural building

After due consideration, members had no comment to make on the proposed development.

Members noted that a further two planning applications had been received which were too late to be included at this meeting. It was therefore agreed that an additional meeting be held to consider these applications at a date/time to be confirmed.

018.2 Decisions made by Herefordshire Council since the last meeting

- Ref: 203787
Site: Spring Cottage, Dinedor
Dev: Extend current kitchen and bathroom and create new utility room. Building above this to create two further bedrooms and upstairs bathroom

Members noted that this application has been refused on the grounds that the proposed development was deemed to be of excessive size.

018.3 Update on planning enforcement issues

There was nothing further to note with regard to current enforcement action.

018.4 Neighbourhood Development Plan

Members noted that the independent external examiner has now completed her review of the plan and has made recommendations for amendments to the plan, particularly with regard to the settlement area which is recommended to be extended to include land which currently has planning approval for development, plus other minor amendments as detailed in her report. After due consideration it was agreed that the recommendations of the external examiner be adopted in full and that the revised plan

be submitted to Herefordshire Council for referendum. A date for the referendum is awaited and will be publicised when available.

019/2021 Highway Matters

019.1 Lengthsman Report

There was nothing to report from the Lengthsman.

Members noted that it was reported during a Herefordshire Council planning site visit that the highway drainage issues are the responsibility of Herefordshire Council and not a planning matter. No response to our reminder to Cllr. Harrington has been received with regard to the drainage issues. This will be discussed further at the next full council meeting but in the mean time the Clerk will press for a response to our letters.

019.2 Report from Footpaths Officer

Members noted the verbal report from the Footpaths Officer including an update on the report on Turnpike Lane which will go to Herefordshire Council for a decision.

A sign is to be provided at the Camp for the permissive path to encourage walkers to keep dogs on leads and to close gates.

There are a number of registered footpaths that have been blocked or have unofficial diversions. It was agreed that the footpaths officer has discussions with landowners where this is evident to ensure that paths do not become blocked and unofficial diversions are formally recognised/recorded.

020/2021 Dinedor Camp

020.1 Report from Dinedor Camp Steering Group

Members noted that the community payback team have restarted visits to the Camp but with limited numbers of people due to the covid restrictions. The group will work on a specific identified area going forward. Plans for the coming months are being drawn up.

020.2 Community Payback Team Agreement

Members noted the revised agreement and risk assessments for the Community Payback Team to attend weekly. It was agreed to authorise the Clerk to accept the revised agreement for weekly visits with a charge for access to the toilets only (estimated to be £20.00 per visit). It was further agreed that this arrangement be reviewed on an annual basis.

020.3 Quotation for legal advice

Members noted that a past proposal for land at the Camp to be designated as Open Access land under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. Recognising that this could have major implications for the land it was formally agreed to seek formal legal advice on this before a decision is taken, up to a cost of £500.00.

021/2021 Membership of Herefordshire Association of Local Councils

After due consideration it was agreed to renew membership of HALC for a further year at a cost of £348.05 (inc VAT).

022/2021 Public Spaces Protection Order for Dog Control

Members considered the extension of Herefordshire Council's Public Spaces Protection Order for Dog Control for a further 3 years, noting that there are not areas within the parish that fall within the Order other than the general requirement that owners must pick up after their dog. There were no objections to the proposed extension.

023/2021 Update on Talk Community Hub at the Village Hall

Members noted that the Village Hall has now received the grant and is in the process of purchasing equipment and installing broadband so that the Talk Community Hub can commence once covid restrictions are released.

024/2021 Policies

The following policies were confirmed:

- Standing Orders
- Complaints Policy
- Planning Procedure

025/2021 Next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 20th May 2021 at 6.00pm but this is subject to confirmation in the light of changes to Covid restrictions. An interim meeting, as agreed earlier, will be arranged to consider planning matters.