

PARISH OF DINEDOR

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 19th May 2022 at Dinedor Village Hall

Present:	Cllr. S. Penny 10 residents	Chairman
In attendance:	Liz Kelso Cllr. David Summers	Clerk, Dinedor Parish Council Herefordshire Council

1/22 **Introduction**

As Chair of the Parish Council, Cllr. Penny welcomed members of the public to the meeting.

2/22 **Report from the Parish Council**

The report from Cllr. Penny as Chair of the Parish Council, as attached to these Minutes, was noted

3/22 **Ward Councillor Report**

The report from the Ward Councillor David Summers was noted, which included:

- A report on the issues facing the planning department of Herefordshire Council. A member of the public noted that there are deficiencies in addressing Heritage issues when considering planning applications
- Responsibility for public rights of way and traffic regulation orders has been moved from Balfour Beatty to Herefordshire Council
- Hoople have taken responsibility for several services and service delivery within the County
- Concerns being raised about the poor state of several Council assets such as the Shirehall.

Members of the public also wished to record their strong concerns about the poor performance of Children's Services and the reported damage to children in the Council's care as a result.

4/22 **Footpaths Officer Report**

The Report from the Footpaths Officer was noted regarding work during the previous year. Concern was particularly expressed about the delay in adding M352 Turnpike Lane to the definitive map following the detailed report last year.

5/22 **Dinedor Village Hall**

The Report from the Village Hall Management Committee as attached to these Minutes, was noted.

The Village Hall Committee were thanked for all the activities and events they have carried out for the residents of Dinedor over the year.

6/22 Dinedor Camp Steering Group

A report from the Dinedor Camp Steering Group about work on the Camp over the previous year, as attached to these Minutes was noted.

7/22 Reports from other local organisations

Verbal reports were also noted from

- Dinedor Sports
- Short Mat Bowls
- A report from the PCC

8/22 Open Forum

During the open forum period the need for support for people during the predicted cost of living crisis was discussed and whether a food bank was needed in Dinedor. It was agreed that this be an item for the Parish Council to discuss at its next meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 18.40pm

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Chairman

Appendix 1

Report from Dinedor Parish Council

Annual Parish Meeting - May 2022

1 Welcome to Dinedor's Annual Parish meeting. This is not a parish council meeting, rather a meeting for the village community to catch up on what has been happening over the past year and to raise any points, issues or items of interest.

2 It is so pleasing that we finally seem to be coming out of the worst of the Covid times. At the moment there are a number of people in the parish who do have Covid, but fortunately, people do seem to be recovering more quickly. I know that some of the support arrangements, such as help with shopping, are still happening, so thanks to all those who continue to be such stalwarts of our community.

3 And this year has seen much more village activity. The coffee mornings, jointly sponsored by the Parish Council and the Village Hall, are back and thriving, with about 35 people usually attending and enjoying some lovely cakes - and most importantly of all, a chat with friends. In December, we celebrated being able to meet again with the 25th anniversary of the hall - a special day.

4 As we will hear a little later in this meeting, the Village Hall is thriving, attracting different groups, including bookings from outside the parish and is a very successful Talk Community Hub. Thanks as always to those who give their time and energy to make things happen. How lucky we are to have such a lovely hall.

We will also hear about the Dinedor Camp sub-group of the PC, which manages the camp and the surrounding area on our behalf. It does sterling work and it is so good to see the area so well and sympathetically managed. Thank you.

5 As your elected parish councillors we continue to work on your behalf. Our Neighbourhood Development Plan was strongly supported by the local referendum on 24th June. After over 7 years of meetings, consultation events, approval from an external examiner, and Herefordshire Council, 60% of residents voted, with 65% of those voting 'Yes'. Thank you to the people who were involved over the years and to those who took the trouble to vote.

6 Having our own NDP means that the planning authority, Herefordshire Council, has to take it into account. We have this year raised with our local Herefordshire Councillor, David Summers and directly with the planning department, a number of planning and enforcement issues.

7 Finances - We have kept well within budget and have not increased the precept for 2022/23, because we are very mindful of the rising cost of living pressures we are all experiencing. We decided to spend some of our reserves on improving the local road drainage and also joined the lengthsman scheme. At our PC meeting tonight, following this one, we will decide how to prioritise the grant we have received from Herefordshire Council. We would not have received this grant had we not paid upfront by joining the lengthsman scheme so that has proved to be a good decision. Special thanks to our clerk Liz Kelso, who manages our affairs very efficiently.

8 We have also supported the Village Hall and have bought some of the nice new tables we are using tonight - much easier to put up and down, to avoid damaging some creaky backs!

9 At last we have had contact from our local community police. We are now part of the local Neighbourhood Alert system which anyone can join. Please ask for details.

10 And our Village Newsletter continues as it has done throughout the pandemic. I reiterate what I said last year that Julia and Chris Over are the kingpins (or even Queen and King pins!) who make it happen - thanks yet again for all that you do.

11 My final thanks to my fellow councillors - including our newest member, Peter Keyes who joined us last year.

REPORT TO DINEDOR PARISH COUNCIL ON DINEDOR VILLAGE HALL

We are pleased to report that with the retreat of Covid-19 activities at our village hall have over the last seven months gradually increased and we now have a diverse programme of events taking place throughout each week. In this respect, the renovation of the hall in 2020-21 with the Parish Council's encouragement and financial support has made the hall an attractive venue to new groups and individuals, and this has helped to boost revenue coming into the hall.

Weekly, we now have a 5 hour booking from the Little Bugs Club on Mondays, with short mat bowls taking place in the evening. On Tuesday mornings, the Art & Craft group gathers, and you will note they are kindly providing a revolving exhibition of their work to enhance the appearance of the hall and to enable visitors to the hall to purchase their works. On Wednesday mornings, the "Move & Improve" fitness group meet, as does every other Wednesday evening the recently-formed table tennis club. Until recently introductory courses in the use of laptops, tablets and smart phones were run on Friday afternoons initially by Fastershire and then by Age UK, followed in the evening by a prayer group.

Monthly, Lower Bullingham Parish Council meets here on Tuesday; and bi-monthly you hold your parish council meeting.

We became a Talk Community Hub in 2021 under the auspice of Herefordshire Council with the objective of giving residents easier access to information that may assist them day-to-day. We now have broadband, a laptop, a printer, and security screens and our small team is available to assist residents if requested. Our objective is also to try and address any issues of loneliness and isolation within our community as well as to engender a community spirit: and to this end Mair and Suzanne run a bi-monthly Saturday coffee morning, and we put on another community event at least every other month. Our Afternoon Teas & Talks have proved popular with speakers including Tim Shelley of Ross-on-Wye Community Gardens, Ian Archer of the Courtyard Hereford, and Robert Thomas lead executive of the Herefordshire charity, Vennture. In the immediate future, we are putting on a Platinum Jubilee Big Lunch for Dinedor residents on Sunday 5th June; and on 6th July an environmental and climate change discussion and debate that we are calling "COP 26 Comes To Dinedor".

Over the last 3 years we have paid particular attention to the fabric of this building and how it works: with a new ceiling, fire and smoke alarm system, floor, lighting and sound system contributing to its improvement. We recently had the large ash tree behind the hall removed as we considered it was threatening the building, and we are about to have the door to the disabled toilet reversed and rehung to bring it in line with standards. The hall improvements were largely funded through grants from organisations including CAF Tourle Foundation, Foyle Foundation, the National Lottery, and of course our Parish Council. In addition, during the pandemic, we were entitled to and drew on Leisure & Hospitality Grants offered by Government through Herefordshire Council to support our sector. These have helped to ensure that despite our lack of hiring revenue during the months of Covid-19 we have been able to pay our overheads and to maintain a healthy bank balance. This will be put towards the upkeep of the hall, and the development of further services for our community.

We are indebted to our management committee and to volunteers for the assistance that they give in running the hall and its activities. We would dearly like to be able to reach and attract members of our community who never enter our doors: and we are always open to new ideas which may attract them. However, at the same time, we would like to welcome new members onto our committee and to our list of regular volunteers to spread the load and perhaps more importantly

help generate those new ideas and enhance our commitment and our provision of services to our whole community.

AJS 13/05/2022

Report from Dinedor Camp Steering Group

The Steering Group continued to meet, most recently on 29th March. The main points of discussion were the priorities for the Payback Team and the disposal of fallen trees.

Three SG members carried out a survey and agreed the work priorities, these were communicated to the Payback Team supervisor who was happy that they gave a good indication of work to be carried out on a weekly basis. The priority is the Camp area but work can be carried out on the Outdoor Centre land when there is surplus labour and the Camp work is being undertaken first.

The community volunteers are a dwindling number and so we are planning on more of the work being undertaken by the Payback Team.

The Payback Team's work has been excellent and we are very grateful for their efforts. Only one issue relating to unauthorised chainsaw work has been a problem and this should not be repeated.

The tree survey used last year has been accepted. Further advice on prioritising felling is awaited. One tree has been identified as potentially risky and the PC will be asked to consider this.

Neil Rimmington visit, change to 'improving' status. Sarah King from the Wildlife Trust visited to offer conservation advice.

Ian Stead

Chair, Dinedor Camp Steering Group May 2022