

DINEDOR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on 21st July 2022, at Dinedor Village Hall

Present:	Cllr. S. Penny – Chair	
	Cllr. N. Austin	
	Cllr. P. Greenow (agenda items 1 – 8 – minute ref 055/2022 only)	
	Cllr. J. Over	
	Cllr. P. Keyse	
In attendance:	Liz Kelso	Clerk/RFO
	Cllr. D. Summers	Ward Councillor, Herefordshire Council
	4 members of the public	

048/2022 Apologies, declarations of interest and requests for dispensation

There were no apologies, declarations of interest or requests for dispensation.

049/2022 Minutes

049.1 Meeting held 19th May 2022

The Minutes of the meeting held on 19th May, which had been previously circulated, were adopted and the Chair authorised to sign as a true record of proceedings at that meeting.

049.2 Annual Parish Meeting held 19th May 2022

The draft Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 19th May, which had been previously circulated, were noted. These Minutes will be adopted at the next Parish Meeting.

050/2022 Public Participation

050.1 Ward Councillor Report

Members noted the verbal report from Councillor Summers including matters relating to high staff turnover in Herefordshire Council and the difficulty in identifying which officers are now responsible for subject areas. The Clerk was requested to obtain a list of senior officers from Herefordshire Council.

050.2 Police Matters

- a) There were no representatives from West Mercia Police in attendance and no report has been submitted.
- b) West Mercia Police have again requested priorities for policing within the area. It was agreed that traffic speed and noise, particularly along the Rotherwas Access Road, visibility of police and attendance at parish council meetings should be raised as priorities.
- c) It was agreed that the Clerk submit a response to the Police and Crime Commissioner's survey and circulate the draft to Members before submission.

050.3 Matters raised by members of the public

During the period set aside for members of the public to raise issues, the following matters were raised:

- Concern about the quality of repairs to road surfaces by Balfour Beatty
- Printing of the Neighbourhood Development Plan

051/2022 Clerk's Report

The Clerk's Report, as attached to these Minutes, was noted.

052/2022 Financial Matters

052.1 Payments authorised at the meeting

The following payments were authorised:

- | | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| • Terry Griffiths Contracts | | |
| Work in accordance with the lengthsman scheme | £400.00 | |
| VAT thereon | £80.00 | |
| Total payment | | £480.00 |
|
E. Kelso | | |
| Office expenses | £64.97 | |
| VAT thereon | £13.00 | |
| Total payment | | £ 77.97 |

052.2 Receipts

None since the last meeting.

052.3 Account balances

An account balance of £19,689.65 was noted.

052.4 Budget Report

Members noted the budget report showing expenditure to date against the agreed budget indicating expenditure largely in line with budget expectations.

053/2022 Highway Matters

053.1 Lengthsman Report

The report from the lengthsman was noted. It was agreed that Cllr. Greenow would discuss other repairs with the lengthsman.

053.2 Proposed Drainage works

Having submitted a suggested project for drainage works under the drainage grant awarded, the lengthsman has reported that Balfour Beatty have refused the proposed works on the grounds that the proposed works do not comply with their guidelines although in the opinion of the lengthsman the work would be the most appropriate solution. It was agreed that a site visit be held with the locality steward, lengthsman, ward councillor and representatives from the parish council to take this forward. Cllr. Greenow will discuss this with the lengthsman to arrange.

053.3 Footpaths

Members noted the report from the Footpaths Officer, highlighting in particular Herefordshire Council's delay in adding the footpath M325 to the definitive map as has previously been indicated. Herefordshire Council have indicated that although this has been agreed, resource limitations mean they are not treating this as a priority. It was agreed that a letter be sent to Herefordshire Council to request that this matter be expedited.

054/2022 Planning Matters

054.1 Current applications

There were no applications requiring consideration at this meeting.

054.2 Planning Decisions since last meeting

Members noted that application 220511 for the erection of one dwelling at Bannut Tree Barn has been approved, with conditions.

054.3 Applications under permitted development rights

None noted.

054.4 Update on enforcement issues

There was nothing further to report on this agenda item.

054.5 Herefordshire Place Shaping Consultation

It was noted that the current consultation in connection with the Local Plan Review identifies potential development sites within rural locations and the market towns but does not appear to require any further development within the Parish. It was agreed that members respond on an individual basis to this consultation.

055/2022 Dinedor Camp

055.1 Dinedor Camp Steering Group

Members noted the report on the recent meeting of Dinedor Camp Steering Group and in particular that police recently attended the Camp following reports of anti social behaviour on the site. A fallen tree is to be removed and following concerns about a further tree, expert advice is being sought. The Steering Group will conduct a walk around to plan future maintenance work in due course.

055.2 Dinedor Outdoor Centre

A report on the Outdoor Centre was noted indicating that the Centre was recovering well from the lockdown periods with renewed activity working with local schools. It was suggested that the Outdoor Centre could be asked to give a presentation on their work to the Talk Community Hub.

055.3 Camp Road

Herefordshire Council has been requested to repair potholes on the camp road. When previously requested they have refused to do so on the grounds that the road is privately owned but responses to date suggest that they may undertake work on the Dinedor Hill road. Legal responsibility for the road across the top of the hill is unclear and may need to be researched further.

056/2022 Dinedor Village Hall

056.1 Parish Council representative

It was unanimously agreed that Chris Waters be appointed Parish Council representative to the Management Committee of Dinedor Village Hall for the forthcoming year. Mr. Waters indicated his agreement to the appointment.

056.2 Draft Constitution for Dinedor Village Hall Management Committee

Dinedor Village Hall Management Committee are proposing changing the structure of the Committee to a Charitable Organisation and presented a draft new constitution for comments. After some questions from Members it was agreed to review this at the September meeting.

057/2022 Resolution to disapply Standing Orders

Having exceeded the two hour period set for Parish Council meetings in accordance with Standing Orders, it was resolved to disapply standing order 3(x) so that the business of the meeting can be concluded.

058/2022 Advice for residents during cost of living crisis

Members noted that the Talk Community Hub operated by the Village Hall Committee are able to provide advice and guidance for residents who require help during the cost of living crisis.

059/2022 Newsletter Printing

Following an increase in the cost of the printing of the parish newsletter, the Clerk obtained comparative quotations for printing the newsletter. Two quotations had been obtained:

Printer A	£53.00 per edition
Printer B	£75.00 per edition

In both cases the quotation is for 150 copies on high quality paper for six editions per year. It was agreed unanimously to accept the quotation from Printer A which the clerk confirmed as being from PrintPlus, the current printer.

060/2022 Use of former BT Phone Box

Noting that there might be some interest in selling the former BT phone box, it was agreed to consider a proposal by Cllr. Keyse for community maintenance of the phone box in future, including the repainting of the box, what it might be used for and who will assume responsibility for ongoing maintenance.

061/2022 Training

061.1 Training requests

It was agreed to ratify the requests to attend the following training sessions offered by HALC:

- Cllr. S. Penny: Best Behaviour – 14th July
Grass Roots – 25th July
- Cllr. P. Keyse: Leading Lights – 21st June
Planning Overview – 30th June

The cost of each session is £50.00 but the parish council qualifies for a discount of £100 in total from HALC for the current year.

061.2 **Reports on training sessions attended**

Members noted the verbal reports from Cllr. Penny on the Best Behaviour training session attended, which she encouraged others to attend, and from Cllr. Keyse on the Leading Lights course attended. It was noted that the Planning Overview session has been deferred to a later date.

062/2022 **Talk Parish Event Topics**

In connection with the consultation by Talk Community for subjects for Talk Parish Events, no subjects were put forward by members.

063/2022 **Information item: reports from Councillors**

There were no items raised under this agenda item.

064/2022 **Meeting dates and frequency**

In an effort to reduce the length of the agenda for parish council meetings, it was agreed to trial for a limited period the holding of monthly meetings on the third Thursday of each month but excluding August and December, subject to confirmation of the availability of the Village Hall.

065/2022 **Next Meeting and items for the agenda**

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 15th September 2022 at 6.00pm in Dinedor Village Hall. The following items were raised during the meeting for this meeting:

- Printing of the Neighbourhood Development Plan
- New signage for the village
- Dinedor Village Hall Constitution
- Dinedor Camp Road
- Maintenance of the former BT phone box

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed.

Dinedor Parish Council

Meeting held on Thursday 21st July 2022

Appendix 1: Clerk's Report

The following items are brought to members attention but not the subject of a separate agenda item:

1. Balfour Beatty

The Clerk has recently attended several meetings at which the performance of Balfour Beatty as agents for Herefordshire Council has been discussed. The issues raised during those meetings included:

- Clear lack of understanding by BBLP of the ways that Parish Councils must work, i.e. the need for decision to be taken in meetings rather than via email and BBLPs requirement for decisions to be made within days
- Lack of access to locality stewards
- Poor communications to parishes including unintelligible reports, lack of clear identification of requirements
- Poor response times by BBLP and poor customer service generally.

Locality Steward for Dinedor, Manny Smith, is to move to other responsibilities within BBLP shortly. The identity of the replacement has not yet been announced.

The next Balfour Beatty bi-monthly locality briefing for the Hereford Rural area which covers Dinedor will take place on Tuesday 26th July at 12.30. The briefing is held online via Teams.

2. Electors Rights

The period for the exercise of electors rights ran from 13th June to 22nd July. At the time of writing this report, there have been no requests to view the accounts and supporting documentation.

The Certificate of Exemption was sent to external auditors PDF Littlejohn immediately after the last meeting and receipt acknowledged by them. To date there appears to have been no request for an intermediate review by the auditors.

3. Sign to Dinedor Camp

The road sign to Dinedor Camp has finally been installed but rather high up. The Clerk has queried this with BBLP and requested that the sign be lowered and this has been refused by BBLP on the grounds that the refuse lorry might damage the sign.

4. Dinedor Camp Access Road

Pothole repairs have been requested on the Dinedor Camp access road twice now and acknowledged twice for repair by Herefordshire Council/Balfour Beatty but as yet no evidence of repairs.