

DINEDOR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 21st November 2024 at Dinedor Village Hall

Present: Cllr. S. Penny - Chair
Cllr. T. Greenow
Cllr. M. Louch

In attendance: Liz Kelso - Clerk/RFO
Cllr. D. Davies – Herefordshire Council – to agenda item 7.4
3 members of the public
2 representatives from West Mercia Police

129/2024 Apologies, declarations of interest and requests for dispensation

Apologies were noted from Cllr. J. Over. There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensation.

130/2024 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd October 2024, which had been previously circulated, were adopted and the Chair authorised to sign as a true record of proceedings at that meeting.

131/2024 Public Participation

131.1 Ward Councillor Report

Members noted the report from the Ward Councillor as attached to these minutes. Members noted further comments about procedures to be followed if or when a planning application is considered by committee rather than decided by a planning officer of Herefordshire Council. Cllr. Davies also noted amendments to the Lengthsman Scheme Drainage and Public Rights of Way funds which are addressed elsewhere on the agenda.

131.2 Matters raised by members of the public in attendance

The following issues were raised during this agenda item:

- Concern about accessing parish council and Herefordshire Council documents online. It was noted that parish council agendas, minutes and supporting papers are available on the parish council website and in hard copy format at the meeting.

- It was suggested that hard copies of consultations by Herefordshire Council should be available at Talk Community Hubs.

131.3 Police Matters

West Mercia Police were welcomed to the meeting and delivered a verbal report noting that the parish has few incidents that are reported to the police. It was noted that a recent police pop up surgery take taken place albeit with short notice so only one member of the public attended. It was suggested that attendance at a village event such as the coffee morning might reach more members of the public and the police were directed to the newsletter and website for more information. It was agreed that going forward, the safer neighbourhood team would attend parish council meetings at least once a year. Policing priorities as indicated by the parish council would be requested quarterly but if there are no changes, these will be carried forward.

132/2024 Clerk's Report

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

133/2024 Financial Matters

133.1 Staff salary

It was noted and agreed that in accordance with the Clerk's terms and conditions of employment, a small increase in the national salary scale rates for local council staff would result in a small increase in monthly salary with the increase backdated to 1st April 2024 in accordance with the national agreement. Relevant changes to the standing order payments in respect of net salary, tax and national insurance were agreed.

133.2 Payments now due:

The following payments were approved:

• Unity Bank		
Bank Charges for November (Direct debit)		£ 6.00
• Dinedor Village Hall		
Room hire – 6 meetings		£144.00
• Liz Kelso		
Office expenses (ink & stationery)	£35.83	
VAT thereon	£7.16	
Total		£42.99
• Terry Griffiths Contracts		
Lengthsman Scheme work October	£466.00	
VAT thereon	£93.20	
Total		£559.20

133.3 Receipts

None since the last meeting.

133.4 Budget review, account balances and bank reconciliation

The Clerk presented the bank reconciliation for the period 1st April to 31st October 2024 showing a total balance of £11,333.98 as at 31st October 2024.

In reviewing the expenditure against budget for the financial year, the Clerk explained that forecast figures had been amended to reflect contracts awarded by Herefordshire Council under the Lengthsman Scheme for drainage works and public rights of way work, both of which currently reflect that expenditure must be incurred before the end of the financial year with the expectation that reimbursement via the grant funding would be received in the next financial year. Ward Councillor Davies noted that it was likely that the deadline for carrying out the work would be extended to the next financial year although an announcement is yet to be made. It was agreed that the forecast would be reconsidered once further information is made available. It was also agreed that planned, but not yet agreed, expenditure on trees in Camp Wood would be considered for the next financial year and the forecast amended accordingly.

133.5 Bank mandate changes

Proposed changes to the bank mandate to remove former councillors were approved.

133.6 Initial draft budget for 2025-6

Members reviewed an initial draft budget noting the assumptions that had been made with particular reference to the timing of expenditure and receipt of grant funding, the details of which were still unclear. Additional requests were considered and a final draft will be presented for consideration at the January parish council meeting which would also agree the precept for 2025-6.

134/2024 Planning Matters

134.1 Applications for consideration

There were no current applications for consideration but members noted that planning application reference 242017 for land adjacent to Hill View in Dinedor and which was discussed at the last meeting, is likely to be the subject of amended plans with a subsequent revised consultation in due course.

134.2 Applications responded to under delegated powers since last meeting

None noted.

134.3 Applications notified under permitted development rights since last meeting

None noted.

134.4 Decisions by Herefordshire Council since the last meeting

None noted.

135.1 Lengthsman Report

The report from the Lengthsman for work carried out in October was noted.

135.2 Update on Application for drainage funding

Members noted that funding has been agreed for ditching works up to a value of £2,000 and the drainage asset survey, at Herefordshire Council's request, of £1,000 but the drainage scheme request had not been successful. The lengthsman was to meet with Herefordshire Council with regard to the asset survey in particular as the costings allocated for Dinedor were not considered accurate. As noted earlier, there was a suggestion that the deadline for incurring expenditure as detailed in the funding contract might be changed or extended to the next financial year.

135.3 Footpath Officers Report

The verbal report from the footpaths officers was noted, with a stile requiring repair to be reported to the public rights of way team at Herefordshire Council.

It was further noted that the delay in processing of the amendment to the definitive map, currently being handled by Herefordshire Council, is disappointing, particularly given that the required referral to the Secretary of State was promised several months ago. It is likely that there will be a public enquiry following objections to the amendments. It was agreed that the Clerk write to Herefordshire Council Highways Department with a copy to the Chief Executive to express the unacceptable delay in carrying out this work.

135.4 Highway Obstruction

Members noted that Turnpike Lane, identified as a highway by Herefordshire Council in accordance with the Modification Order dated February 2023, has been blocked by the erection of a fence and gate which has been screwed shut. After due consideration, it was **resolved** to authorise the clerk to the council to make representations on its behalf using the procedure of section 130 (6) of the Highways Act 1980 to require the unlawful obstruction of the Highway by the construction of a fence and gate which has been screwed closed adjacent to Latitude 52.030750 Longitude -2.683715 to be removed.

135.5 To agreed priorities for Rights of Way work in accordance with the funding agreement with Herefordshire Council

Given the uncertainty about when this work must be completed by, it was agreed to defer a decision on work to be carried out until the situation is clearer.

136/2024 Dinedor Camp

136.1 Report from Dinedor Camp Steering Group

Minutes from the Dinedor Camp Steering Group meeting held on 6th November, as attached to these Minutes, were noted.

136.2 Flail Mower Repair

It was noted that the mower has been repaired and an invoice for the work is awaited.

136.3 Dinedor Camp Access Road

Correspondence from Dinedor Outdoor Centre regarding leaves on the access road leaving the road slippery was noted. Members were reminded that the access road from the turning at the Laurels to the top of the hill is a public road. Herefordshire Council have been requested on several occasions to repair the potholes and have undertaken some work but it is unlikely they will sweep the very rural road to remove leaves. A request for repairs will be submitted again by the Clerk.

136.4 Camp Equipment Storage

A request for payment for storage of the mower and strimmer by the Outdoor Centre on behalf of the Camp Steering Group was noted. Given the budget constraints, it was agreed that an alternative storage arrangement would be considered and the Clerk was instructed to advise the Outdoor Centre accordingly.

136.5 Event for Herefordshire History Week

Members noted a proposal by the Dinedor Camp Steering Group to hold an event in May in connection with Herefordshire History Week to include a talk by the Herefordshire Archaeologist on the history of the site together with displays and a guided walk around the Camp all of which it was hoped would attract visitors to the site and encourage volunteering. Whilst the concept was supported the estimated cost was felt to be too high and it was suggested that the Steering Group discuss the potential event with the Dinedor Heritage Group with a view to cost sharing.

137/2024 Dinedor Village Hall

Members noted upcoming events at the Village Hall and that there has been no committee meeting since the last parish council meeting.

138/2024 Consultation on Trees, Hedgerows and Woodlands

After due consideration it was agreed that the footpaths officers be delegated authority to respond to the Herefordshire Council consultation on trees, hedgerows and woodlands.

139/2024 Councillor Training Requests

There were no requests for councillor training.

140/2024

Reports from Councillors

There were no items raised under this agenda item.

141/2024

Next Meeting and items for the agenda

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 16th January 2025 at 6.00pm in the Village Hall. There were no further items raised for the agenda.

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

Dinedor Parish Council

Meeting held on 21st November 2024

Appendix 1

Ward Councillors Report

NOVEMBER UPDATE

**BALLINGHAM, BOLSTONE & HENTLAND, DINEDOR, HOLME LACY, LITTLE
DEWCHURCH & LOWER BULLINGHAM PARISHES
DINEDOR HILL WARD**

From your local County Councillor

David Davies

david.davies2@herefordshire.gov.uk

Dear Residents

I was pleased that the additional 8 million the Council has put into the capital roads programme could include more work in the ward.

This last month saw even more rain fall with over half a monthly rainfall in one day resulting in flooding issues which I address later in the update. Obviously the rain has occurred as potato, apple and maize harvest is still in full swing and I have liaised with the Police, Balfour and the larger agri-business to encourage signage and clearance of dangerous conditions.

Your black bin collections are taken to an Envir/Recover Energy to Waste facility in Worcestershire which processes 210,000 tonnes of non-recyclable waste each year. The waste is then processed to produce energy that is sold back to the National Grid. Recently the plant hit production of one million megawatts of energy from waste which is enough to power 40,000 homes per year since opening.

While the budget gave some indication of public spend we will have to wait till December to be given our provisional settlement for 2025/26. In this current year the council needs to make 19.5 million savings on a revenue budget of 212.6 million pounds.

I shall be attending the County Remembrance service in Hereford on Sunday 10th November.

In this month's update I cover the recent flooding, the Parish summit at plough lane, commemorating the 80th anniversary of the young farmers rural youth movement, highways and the usual contacts.

As ever if I can be of any help please don't hesitate to contact

Stay safe and well

ROGER

OCTOBER FLOODING

The high rainfall of recent months continued in October with a huge local deluge of rain on 16th on a saturated surface. The result was excess run off water on our highways and in our water courses causing flooding of highways. Once again Lower Bullingham Lane, Watery Lane, Hoarwithy Road and Holme Lacy Road were badly affected. – in many cases the third time this year. As well as localised flooding in Dinedor village. The work of the local Herefordshire 4X4 Response volunteers is tremendous ensuring drivers are alerted to the imminent risk, more vulnerable helped, and manning the closed highways in case of stranded motorists.

Bloor Homes had done some re-profiling of the field adjacent to the railway bridge on Hoarwithy Road. The initial indications was that this had kept water in the Withy Brook water course. However the rain of mid-October overcame the brook causing water once again to flood the road at the railway bridge. Then it ran down the footpath and flooded Lower Bullingham Lane. I did document the flooding and informed the drainage team and also Bloor Homes. They will now review this footage and come up with a new plan for future works.

Parish Councils are encouraged to collate information about the flooding to submit to the Environment Agency and Herefordshire Council, and I shall work with them on establishing a plan and timetable of prevention and mitigation of future events. If you have information on local flood risk areas please pass them on for my action.

There was a recent debate before the flooding at Council about maintenance and prevention of flooding and HC has held two open seminars with councillors about the recent flooding issues. One of the outcomes is that we can identify the hotspots and must ensure the drains are kept clear by our contractor Balfour, and with local landowners ensure drains, ditches and gulley's are as clear as possible. Recognising that at times of high water levels drains will be overrun but if they are free as the water subsides it will return to its normal channels quicker.

There has been much comment about roads badly flooded not being closed by signage. It is difficult in rainfall events like these to have the manpower capacity to be everywhere at the same time and main roads will usually take priority. However far too many people drive into flooded water and risk braking down. We also have incidents continually particularly in Lower Bullingham where drivers remove the signs and barriers or just drive through in high vehicles and 4X4s creating bow waves that can cause excess water into homes.

Sign up to police alerts, you can choose which areas you want to hear about and what activity is taking place in that area. You'll also hear about positive police action, good news stories and be able to play an active part in helping us with our public appeals.

<https://link.edgepilot.com/s/bb21d405/UARq0VNajkqv1vLf0zKSJQ?u=http://www.neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk/>

Emma Turberfield 07773041109 Felix Rawlinson 07971051480

Report a crime Police 101 Ext 61216



Second Parish Council Summit

Nearly a hundred Parish Councillors and Clerks attended the second Parish Summit at the Plough Lane Headquarters of Herefordshire Council. Topics included an update on Children's services, and the 382 children in the care of the authority. The director of Adult Health care talked about a more preventative

approach to supporting vulnerable older people to ensure they live well. The County has 54 businesses providing care support in the home and 86 care residential homes.

A presentation on Public Rights of Way covering 2,000 miles of PROW with 1,873 footpaths, 257 bridleways and 20 Byways open to Traffic. This year the council placed more funding in both the revenue and capital budgets and allocated 250K for grants to Parish Councils.

Prior to the meeting various councils services put on small displays with the relevant officers there to help with any assistance or help parish councillors required.

HIGHWAYS

Local Road Closures

Balfour Beatty

C1261 From C1234 To Knapp Green Hoarwithy 23214885 C1261 Emergency Road Closure - Road closed - Large protruding boulder precariously hanging over the edge of a hill with the risk of imminently falling into the carriageway. Closed until an engineering assessment can be carried out. (Enquiry 11166906)
Road Closure (carriageway)C1261 Between Hoarwithy and A49 28-09-2024 10-11-2024

BT Open Reach

C1261 Bogmarsh Lane To Knapp Green Little Dewchurch 23214882 C1261 Road Closure is required for pole testing. Road Closure (Carriageway)OPP LOWER WEAVERN C1261 BOGMARSH LANE TO KNAPP GREEN LITTLE DEWCHURCH HR2 6QB
06-11-2024 06-11-2024

Welsh Water

C1262 From

Toll Housewyke Bridge To New M Hoarwithy 23214880 C1262 Change Meter Road Closure (Verge)ADJ TO SAMANTHA, HOARWITHY, HEREFORDSHIRE 03-12-2024 03-12-2024

BT Open Reach

Pencoyd St Owens Cross 23213552 U71401 road closure required for pole testing work and tree cutting

Road Closure (Carriageway)JNC OF PENCOYD AND LENASTONE LANE NR POULTRY HOUSES PENCOYD ST OWENS CROSS HR2 8NL
03-12-2024 03-12-2024

As the temperatures start to drop it would be good get our highway up to date with defects so

PLEASE report potholes and concerns

Report problems on the road –

www.herefordshire.gov.uk/roads-1/report-problems-road

Check on progress of a defect

herefordshire.gov.uk/roads-1/pothole-road-defect-progress-map

Report a serious pothole, flooded road or highway obstruction- Balfour Beatty Living Places : 01432 261800

Footpaths issues –

- **PROW - PROW@herefordshire.gov.uk**
- **PROW No – [01432 383 550](tel:01432383550)**

Report fly tipping it will be dealt with in a much quicker time frame. by either calling the Contact Centre on 01432 261800 or by logging the fly tipping via the council website on the links below as your

https://link.edgepilot.com/s/f452e836/Hy5YWk_SgEGkleekL2ROFQ?u=https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200226/report_a_problem/98/fly_tipping

Picture Above- part of the Luntley highway resurfaced this past month.

HEREFORDSHIRE YFC celebrates its 80th anniversary



Herefordshire federation of Young Farmers clubs celebrated its 80th anniversary with a march through High town and Broad street to a special service in the Cathedral, followed by tea in the Town hall. The parade was led with a Hereford Bull.

The YFC movement is a voluntary organisation for any young people between ages 10-28 who live in rural areas, and encourages them to participate in activities and interact with other young people and grow them in confidence and competences learning values of community and countryside.

Opportunities to learn new skills – including hedging, cookery, public speaking; playing sports, charity fundraising entering competitions from stock judging to Drama and entertainments, and of course a large social programme of events.

The 80 years have seen huge social changes and changes in farming practices, living through foot and mouth outbreaks, covid pandemic, navigating safe guarding, risk assessments, embracing diversity, going from one horse power to hundreds of horse powers, from written word to the mobile text. A great organisation based on fun, learning and achievement.

More details can be found <https://hfyfc.org.uk/>

Exciting plans for Hereford's Shirehall



The two year renovation of one of Hereford's most historic buildings, the Shirehall, is now a step closer as design proposals are submitted that will transform the building into a new library and learning centre, and versatile community space. The exciting plans outline how the building's heritage features will be preserved when the Shirehall becomes a vibrant community hub.

The renovation will breathe new life into the building, offering a variety of spaces and services. In addition to being home to a modern library and learning centre, the Shirehall

will feature: Meeting rooms, Community skills development areas, Heritage interpretation and tours, Hireable courtroom spaces and the Offices for the Coroner and Registrars. The target for opening is Autumn 2026.

Temporary library relocation during Shirehall renovation is in the Town Hall

Parish Contacts

Ballingham, Bolstone & Hentland PC clerk@ballinghambolstonehentland-pc.gov.uk

Dinedor PC clerk@dinedorparishcouncil.gov.uk

Holme Lacy PC holmelacyparishclerk@gmail.com

Little Dewchurch PC parish.clerk@littledewchurch.org.uk

Lower Bullingham PC clerk@lowerbullinghamparishcouncil.co.uk

Planning enforcement concern

PlanningEnforcement@herefordshire.gov.uk

Local Emergency Numbers

Environment Agency: 0800 80 70 60 (24-hours) or visit www.gov.uk/report-an-environmental-incident

Flood alerts: Floodline 0345 988 1188. Sign up online at www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings to get Flood Warnings from the Environment Agency by phone, email or text message. If you live by a river or stream, keep a watch on current and expected water levels.

Power cut: Call 105 or visit www.powercut105.com

BT phone line issues: www.downdetector.co.uk/status/bt-british-telecom

Gas leak: 0800 111 999 or visit www.wvutilities.co.uk/services/smell-gas

Welsh Water: [0800 052 0130](tel:08000520130) (Water emergencies) or [0800 085 3968](tel:08000853968) (Sewer emergencies) or visit www.contact.dwrcymru.com/

The Citizens Advice Bureau Online at advice@citizensadviceherefordshire.org.uk for initial contact by email. Please also give a contact phone number in case we need to contact you for more information.

Dinedor Parish Council

Meeting held on 21st November 2024

Appendix 2

Clerk's Report

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

Parish Councillor Vacancy

Herefordshire Council's elections office has confirmed that no valid request for an election has been received in connection with the casual vacancy resulting from the resignation of Joe Davey. The parish council is now free to co-opt to fill that vacancy. A revised notice has been uploaded to the website and notice boards. Should anyone express an interest in the role, please ask them to contact the Clerk so that the relevant checks can be made prior to co-option.

2 Parish Council Charter

The Clerk has been working with a small working party consisting of councillors from other parish councils, HALC and Herefordshire Council on reviving the Parish Council Charter; a document dating originally from 2011 which sets out the relationship and expectations of parish councils and Herefordshire Council. The latest meeting of the group took place on Wednesday 20th November at which comments received following the consultation on the draft and at the Parish Summit in October were reviewed. A face to face meeting of the group is to be arranged so that a revised charter can be drafted for consideration by all parish councils early next year and at the next parish summit, tentatively scheduled for February.

3. Remote meetings

The Government has launched another consultation into the option of allowing town and parish councils to hold remote meetings and/or allow remote access by councillors to parish council meetings. There are also questions on whether to allow proxy voting. The consultation can be responded to by individuals and/or by parish councils and the deadline is before Christmas.