

DINEDOR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 20th February 2025 at Dinedor Village Hall

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

In attendance: Liz Kelso - Clerk/RFO
Cllr. D. Davies – Herefordshire Council
4 members of the public
T. Griffiths – Parish Lengthsman

005/2025 Apologies, declarations of interest and requests for dispensation

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

006/2025 Minutes

006.1 Meeting held 19th December 2024

The Minutes of the meeting held on 19th December 2024, which had been previously circulated, were adopted and the Chair authorised to sign as a true record of proceedings at that meeting.

006.2 Meeting held 28th January 2025

The Minutes of the meeting held on 28th January 2025 were adopted and the Chair authorised to sign as a true record of proceedings at that meeting.

007/2025 Public Participation

007.1 Ward Councillor Report

Members noted the report from the Ward Councillor including further comments about discussions with the locality steward on the subject of drainage projects within the parish and discussions with the planning enforcement team on development within the village.

007.2 Matters raised by members of the public in attendance

The following issues were raised during this agenda item:

- Footpath matters and historical links to the village that can be highlighted during Herefordshire History week
- Proposed developments at Rotherwas Industrial Estate
- Actions, if any, by Herefordshire Council as highways authority following a fatal accident on the B4399

007.3 Police Matters

A report from West Mercia Police was noted.

008/2025 Clerk's Report

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

009/2025 Financial Matters

009.1 Payments now due:

The following payments were approved:

- | | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| • Unity Bank | | |
| Bank Charges for January and February (Direct debit) | | £12.00 |
| • Liz Kelso | | |
| Office expenses (subscription) | | £47.88 |
| • PrintPlus | | |
| January newsletter printing | | £55.00 |
| • Terry Griffiths Contracts | | |
| Lengthsman Scheme work October | £466.00 | |
| VAT thereon | £93.20 | |
| Total | | £559.20 |

009.2 Amendments to standing order payments

Amendments to standing order payments in respect of staff salary and HMRC payments following a tax code change were agreed.

009.3 Receipts since last meeting

Bank interest received on 31.12.2024 of £20.15 was noted.

009.4 **Budget review, account balances and bank reconciliation**

The Clerk presented the bank reconciliation for the period 1st April to 31st January 2025 showing a total balance of £8,991.40 as at 31st January 2025.

In reviewing the expenditure against budget for the financial year, it was noted that this was broadly in line with expectations.

010/2025 **Planning Matters**

010.1 **Applications for consideration**

- Ref: 250240
Site: Rovello, Hollow Farm Road, Dinedor
Dev: Proposed extension and alterations to existing timber frame building

Members considered this application and had no objections to the proposed development.

- Ref: 250364
Site: Building 704, Chapel Road, Rotherwas
Dev: Proposed construction and operation of micro-energy storage facility

Members considered this application and had no comment on the proposed development.

010.2 **Applications notified under permitted development rights since last meeting**

None noted.

010.3 **Decisions by Herefordshire Council since the last meeting**

None noted.

010.4 **Planning Enforcement Action since last meeting**

It was noted that Herefordshire Council's planning enforcement team has confirmed that recent development work in the parish is in line with existing planning consent.

010.5 **Revised National Planning Policy Framework**

Members noted advice from Herefordshire Council on revisions to the National Planning Policy Framework and the potential practical impact of this on planning matters in Herefordshire. In particular, concerns were expressed that despite an approved neighbourhood development plan for Dinedor in which the required housing allocation was indicated for a particular site, strong representations to Herefordshire Council that the application is contrary to the Dinedor NDP and representations to the ward councillor, there is a high likelihood that a reduction in properties at that site may be approved.

011.1 Lengthsman Report

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

011.2 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, albeit anecdotally, the lengthsman has been told that the scheme under this section may be approved. Other works under this funding could be rescheduled from the routine tasks going forward, enabling additional works under the routine tasks to be added. Whilst an extension to the time allowed for this work to be carried out has been confirmed, there have been no further details on the works previously excluded from the funding agreement.

011.3 Flooding at the Village Hall

Members noted that a recent report of flooding adjacent to the Village Hall was reported to Herefordshire Council and operatives from BBLP, having visited when water had receded, had deemed the flooding insignificant. The Lengthsman confirmed that if the drainage scheme is approved which will allow a larger pipe to be fitted, this should help with this issue. Confirmation from BBLP/Herefordshire Council is awaited under the drainage scheme as noted in 011.2 above.

011.4 Footpath Officers Report

The verbal report from the footpaths officer was noted. A review of existing infrastructure on paths around the parish is taking place with a view to arranging repairs etc. when appropriate.

Members noted that the procedure under s130 of the Highways Act 1980 as agreed at the meeting in November had been found to be more complex than originally thought and it was agreed to consider this further at the next meeting before proceeding.

011.5 Rights of Way Funding work

It was noted that whilst work in accordance with the Rights of Way funding agreed by Herefordshire Council has been extended to June, some materials have been supplied to footpaths officers without the requirement to purchase those items directly from Balfour Beatty. The Footpaths Officers are in discussions with landowners with regard to the installation of these items going forward at the landowners expense.

The Clerk expressed concern that Herefordshire Council appear to be acting outside the terms of the funding agreement but had not amended the formal agreement or acted in a way enabling parish councils to comply with financial regulations in accordance with this funded work. The Ward Councillor will look into how this funding is working and report back to the parish council.

011.6 Request for speed restrictions through the Village

The Clerk reported that any application for a traffic regulation order restricting traffic speed through the Village would require support from the police as well as an investment from the parish for any agreed work to be carried out. It was agreed that the clerk obtains current advice from Balfour Beatty and report back to the next meeting.

011.7 Verge Cutting

Members agreed that there are no areas where a single verge cut during the year would be appropriate, rather than two cuts as current.

012/2025 Dinedor Camp

012.1 Report from Dinedor Camp Steering Group

A report on the most recent Camp Steering Group meeting was noted.

013.2 Tree work

Quotations for tree work in three locations at the Camp following storm damage and to clear overhanging trees from Camp Wood across the access road were considered. The quotation for £1,260.00 in total was accepted and the Clerk instructed to notify the successful and unsuccessful contractors accordingly.

013.3 Camp Equipment Storage

Members considered a request again for payment for storage of the mower and strimmer by the Outdoor Centre. Given the parish council's considerable budget constraints it was agreed to ask the Camp Steering Group to consider alternative arrangements for the storage of these items

014/2025 Dinedor Village Hall

Members noted that the Village Hall Committee are to review the proposal to set up a community interest company.

Proposals for the refurbishment of the kitchen area at the Village Hall are to be reconsidered although the replacement of the dishwasher, cooker and flooring are likely to go ahead.

015/2025 Councillor Training Requests

It was agreed that Cllr. Louch attend a HALC training course on Community Asset Transfers in March.

016/2025 Reports from Councillors

It was noted that Cllr. Penny had recently met with a senior police officer and had reiterated the parish council's concerns at attendance at meetings by the Safer Neighbourhood Team.

017/2025

April meeting date

It was noted that the agreed April meeting date falls within the Easter break. The Clerk will check the Village Hall availability and confirm the revised date at the next meeting.

018/2025

Next Meeting and items for the agenda

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 20th March 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 20th February 2025

Appendix 1

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

1. **Parish Councillor Vacancy**

We currently have one vacancy for a parish councillor for Dinedor. Notices are on the website and notice boards but as yet no one has come forward to express an interest. Please encourage local residents with an interest in serving their community to come forward. 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. **Consultation into strengthening the standards and conduct framework for local authorities in England**

The Government is currently conducting a consultation on strengthening the standards and behaviour framework for local authorities in England. You can take part in this consultation as an individual councillor, staff member or as a parish council. The closing date for responses is 26th February.

3. **Locality Steward**

The new locality steward for Hereford South Rural which includes the Dinedor Hill Ward is Craig Sandman.

4. **Hereford (Rotherwas) Enterprise Zone Local Development Order (LDO) Extension**

A Local Development Order has been in place for Rotherwas since 2013 which is aimed at simplifying planning arrangements through granting planning permission for certain agreed forms of development. It is now proposed that the LDO be re-adopted for a further period of five years to 2030 to support the final development of the Hereford (Rotherwas) Enterprise Zone. A consultation on this process runs from 14th February to 14th March although an extension has been granted to allow Dinedor Parish Council to comment on this proposal until 21st March as the announcement was received too late to be included on the agenda for the meeting on 20th February. This will be an agenda item for the March meeting but in the meantime, documents can be accessed on the Herefordshire Council website.

5. **Highway Obstruction Notice under s130A Highways Act 1980**

At the end of last year the parish council agreed to issue a section 130A notice under the Highways Act to require that Herefordshire Council take action following an obstruction on Turnpike Road. The process of issuing this notice has been delayed as the process is a formal legal one requiring a specific notice, known as a Form 1 to be issued which the Highway Authority must respond to within a specific time period. Failure to adhere to the formal notice process means the process must be re-

started. Some additional information has been requested to issue the formal notice but members should be aware this is the beginning of a process which culminates in appeal to the Magistrates Court which in itself incurs costs albeit ones which can be reimbursed if the process is successful, i.e. Herefordshire Council is deemed to be liable. A further report will be available once the section 130A notice has been formally issued.

6. Parish Council Funding Officer

Herefordshire Council, through its Talk Community Development Team, has appointed a Parish Council Funding Officer who is offering to work with parish councils to explore external funding opportunities. I have taken the liberty of asking for advice on potential funding opportunities for work on Dinedor Camp in particular and invited a talk community officer to the next meeting of the Dinedor Camp Steering Group.

The Camp Steering Group is, of course, a working party formed by the parish council and any funding is via the parish council and in compliance with our financial regulations so the parish council would need to agree to any bid to any external funding body so this initial discussion will be reported to the next meeting of the parish council.