

# WEOBLEY PARISH COUNCIL

## PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Weobley Parish Council Meeting held remotely via the Zoom platform on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020 commencing at 7:00pm.

---

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councillors L Anderson (Chair), J Simons (Vice Chair), A Apps, C Breen, P Lloyd, V Mackie, H Quinlan and M Ware.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Ward Cllr Jones.

**OFFICER PRESENT:** Clerk to the Council.

**PUBLIC OPEN SESSION –** There were no members of the public present. No matters were raised.

### 49/20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs C Saunders and M West. The Chair would contact Cllr West to discuss whether he wished to continue to be a parish councillor.

### 50/20 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

The following Declaration of Interest was made:

- Cllr Lloyd: Gareth Higgs Tree Surgeon

### 51/20 MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2020 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

### 52/20 MATTERS ARISING

Council considered and adopted the update report. The following matters were noted:

- Hand gel dispensers for the public toilets were currently being purchased. It was agreed to purchase additional units for the library and museum for when they reopened;
- The vandalism at the play area had been reported;
- The Branching Out application for additional trees had been submitted.

### 53/20 POLICE REPORT

The Police were unable to be present but the following update was noted.

- 30/09/2020 - Reports of criminal damage to the Play Area. Reoccurrence on 13/10. The Play Area had been damaged several times this month. CCTV was in the process of being upgraded. There would be police patrols in the village;
- 23/10/2020 - Report of a pedal cycle stolen from an address in Bearcroft;
- 23/10/2020 - Report of antisocial behaviour in Burton Wood where an egg was reportedly launched towards someone's property but fell short and was found in the garden in the morning;
- In general – The Police are receiving several reports of poaching in surrounding areas;
- The Police are also seeing consistent reports of scams being attempted on vulnerable people. These usually take place over the phone whereby fraudsters will attempt to convince victims to withdraw large sums of money to hand over to them or to purchase vouchers from a supermarket that are then given to the fraudsters. Please be vigilant and never give out personal information to those you do not know over the phone.

### 54/20 WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT

Council received the following report from Ward Cllr Jones:

- Herefordshire Council had a meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> October. £500,000 was allocated towards the repair of the leisure pool. Some works would be covered by insurance with the outstanding amount met by the Council. The pool would be reopened in February/March 2021;
- 1,200 planning applications had been suspended due to the moratorium in place due to the high phosphate levels. The Council was considering the use of settlement ponds and allocating £3 million to purchase suitable land. The current land supply stood at 3.69 years;
- The cases of Coronavirus were slowly going up but were still relatively low compared to other areas in the UK. A spike had been experienced on the Herefordshire/Gloucester border near Ross on Wye;
- The Council would be reimbursing schools for any free meals provided over the half term period;
- The number eligible for free school meals stood at 3,200, a 25% increase since October 2019;
- There was no further update regarding the transport review. This would be provided in November 2020;
- A cabinet meeting was scheduled for Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2020;
- It was noted that the planning committee meeting had been postponed until Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2020. Cllr Anderson would be speaking on behalf of the Parish Council.

## 55/20 FINANCES & POLICY

- (a) **Village Hall Annual Grant** – Following discussion, Council agreed to award the annual grant of £520 to the Village Hall for the car park rental and a further grant to cover the annual safety checks cost amounting to £506.64.
- (b) **Royal British Legion Donation** – Following discussion, Council agreed to make a donation of £50 to the RBL for a wreath.
- (c) **Accounts Outstanding and Financial Statement** – Council approved the following payment of accounts relating to October 2020:

PAYEE	SERVICE	CHEQUE	TOTAL
Carpenter Goodwin Ltd	Mower	1628	£349.00
M Ware	Morrisons Fuel	1629	£20.75
P Russell	Salary Oct 20	1630	£412.49
P Russell	HMRC Tax	1630	£46.80
P Russell	Clerk's Expenses (inc Laptop)	1630	£272.05
Upper Bridge Enterprises Ltd	Websites	1632	£495.46
Ms Kenny	Public Convenience sundries	1633	£8.36
Gareth Higgs Tree Surgeon	Re-pollard of oak at Hopelands	1634	£720.00
Chris Breen	Ropes Direct	1634	£35.70
Chris Breen	LBS (shackles)	1634	£3.50
Chris Breen	Light Shop Direct	1634	£90.00
Chris Breen	Streetstyle UK	1634	£159.20
Chris Breen	Arrow Plant & Tool	1634	£51.60
Chris Breen	LBS (Decking repair)	1634	£25.90
Chris Breen	Morrison's Fuel	1635	£19.02
Richard Mills	Weed spraying etc	1636	£555.36
RBL	Grant	1637	£50.00
Hopelands VH	Maintenance support	1638	£506.64
Hopelands VH	Grant	1638	£520.00
			<b>£4,341.83</b>

- (d) **Post Office Van** – Council noted that temporary arrangements were currently in place for the post office van but with times altered to 10:45am to 1:15pm due to the current operator being unwell.
- (e) **Website Revision** – Council noted that upgrades to the website had been completed and it now met the Public Sector Bodies (Websites & Mobile Applications No.2) Accessibility Regulations 2018. It was agreed to delegate the updating of the website to Cllr Apps in order to help keep it more up to date.
- (f) **Clerk to the Council** – Council noted that no further progress had been made to recruit a new Parish Clerk. It was agreed to investigate Hoople and add the vacancy on to the website. It was noted that the current Clerk would be leaving on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020.
- (g) **The Library** – Council noted that plans were being drawn up to reopen the library sometime in the future although a date has yet to be confirmed. Current service was only click and collect at main branches.

Council agreed to request Cllr Simons to carry out a survey of the library roof following receipt of an alternative offer. It was also agreed to address the security light which was constantly on following a recent power cut.

Council agreed to give permission to the History Society to carry out some refurbishments to the museum and it was agreed to address the damp prior to any refurbishments taking place.

- (h) **Bonfire & Fireworks** – Council agreed to book Friday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2021 as the date for the event next year. Council would continue to try to identify a larger site as well as considering possible changes to the existing venue.
- (j) **Weobley Support Group** – Council considered the request to act as the registering organisation for volunteers to have DBS checks undertaken at a cost of £15 per person and, following discussion, agreed subject to placing a cap of up to 6 people.

## 56/20 HIGHWAY MATTERS

- (a) **Footpath update** – Council noted the update provided. Due to the increased use of the footpaths the requirement to mow had been reduced. Cllr Ware agreed to investigate the repair of the gates opposite the scout hut. The Lengthsman would be requested to provide a quotation to carry out the works.
- (b) **The Pump House & Bell Square Car Park** – Council noted the receipt of the asbestos survey. It was agreed to request a Letter of Intent from Welsh Water to transfer the Pump House to the Parish Council. Once a response had been received from Welsh Water the Council would consider the next steps.
- (c) **Provision of Footpath by Village Hall** – Council noted that this work had now been requested, including the reinstatement of the dropped kerb, and would be funded using S106 funding. It was noted that sufficient S106 funds remained to carry out all the other works identified.
- (d) **Christmas Lights** – Council noted the update from Cllr Breen regarding the Christmas Lights. A trial of the new LED festoon lights had commenced and the Unicorn had agreed to provide a power supply. The Lights Team were looking at succession planning and had organised two teams for this year. The lights were being erected on 30<sup>th</sup> November and 1<sup>st</sup> December with the switch on taking place on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

- (e) **Lengthsman Tasks** – Council noted that the tree works at Bell Square was still outstanding. It was agreed to obtain a quotation from Gareth Higgs Tree Surgeons to carry out this work, including the submission of the permission, and for works to the trees behind 22 Bearcroft.

It was agreed to obtain a quotation from the Lengthsman to resurface the Bell Square car park with new chippings and create additional space including where the sandbags had been stored. The pedestrian barriers would be shortened to create more space and easier access.

## 57/20 PLANNING MATTERS

- (a) **Planning** – Council agreed to submit the following comments to Herefordshire Council.

**APPLICATION:** P203325  
**SITE:** Fair View Cottage Weobley Hereford Herefordshire HR4 8QS  
**DESCRIPTION:** Application for approval of details reserved by condition 3 attached to planning permission 201750  
**COMMENT:** It was noted that no comments were being accepted on this application.

**APPLICATION:** P203129  
**SITE:** Plot 4 The Paddocks Weobley Herefordshire HR4 8RY  
**DESCRIPTION:** Proposed construction of a carport with garden/log store and garden room.  
**COMMENT:** No objection subject to the comments proposed by the Planning Working Group.

**APPLICATION:** P203206  
**SITE:** Mellington House Broad Street Weobley Hereford Herefordshire HR4 8SA  
**DESCRIPTION:** Ash situated adjacent to neighbouring property, reduce upper canopy reducing taller central stem by one third. Remove one small low branch arching over neighbouring property. Remove fractured stub back to a suitable live point and check upper canopy for any broken or fractured branches. Reason - Tree suffered recent storm damage, works to prevent further collapse  
**COMMENT:** No objection subject to the views of the Tree Warden.

**APPLICATION:** P202948  
**SITE:** 4 Garbetts Orchard Weobley Hereford Herefordshire HR4 8TJ  
**DESCRIPTION:** Proposed erection of a hardwood / glass greenhouse to the front of the house.  
**COMMENT:** No objection

## 58/20 PARISH MATTERS

- (a) **Play Area** – Council noted the comprehensive update regarding play area maintenance which had been sent to all Councillors. Following discussion, Council agreed to:
- To renew the CCTV recorder and relocate it to improve access at a cost of £250;
  - To replace the pedestrian gate, which was not H&S compliant, at a cost of £484. The gate would be installed by Richard Baugh. The old gate will be reused elsewhere.
- (b) **Skate Park** – Council noted that a further delay had been experienced whilst permission was sought from Western Power to access the site due to overhead power cables. This would be followed up as a priority.
- (c) **Rose Garden** – Council noted that quotations had been sought for the moling and a license application had been submitted to Balfour Beatty. Following discussion, it was agreed to carry out the planting as proposed but to put the installation of an additional electrical point by the Magpie statue on hold for the present due to the potential costs.

- (d) **LEADER Funding Project** – Council noted that the Working Group had reviewed the information board amendments, agreed the inclusion of a “you are here” identification and agreed the locations.

There was an issue with water ingress in the new interpretation panels and Visual Works had been contacted. This would be followed up.

**59/20 CORRESPONDENCE** – Council noted the following correspondence received:

- Locality Steward update – October 2020
- Herefordshire Council Covid-19 updates
- PROW Newsletter
- Herefordshire Council Physical Activity Strategy consultation
- Road Closure information – October 2020
- HALC Training and updates – October 2020

**60/20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Council noted that the next meeting of the Council would be held on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 7.00pm remotely via the Zoom platform.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9:16pm.

**CHAIR:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_