

Woolhope Parish Council

Minutes of a remote meeting of Woolhope Parish Council

Held on Tuesday 23rd March 2021 at 7.30pm

Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority Meetings) (England) Regulations 2020

Present: Cllr M Slocombe In the Chair
Cllr G Chapman
Cllr. S Crozier
Cllr. M Windham
Cllr. R Rolt
Cllr. J Brandt
Cllr. A May

In attendance: N.Richmond – Clerk
Ward Cllr. Barry Durkin
One parishioner 'Jeremy'

1. **Apologies, declarations of interest and requests for dispensation**

Apologies were received from Cllr S Powell. No declarations of interest were made or requests for dispensation received.

2. **Open Forum**

The parishioner in attendance was asked if he wished to bring any particular matter to the attention of council, but he said he would just listen to proceedings.

5. **Ward Councillors Report.**

Cllr Durkin's report was taken next in order that he could leave the meeting early. He reported that, following the decision not to go ahead with the Hereford bypass, a new high road was under consideration from Rotherwas to Hampton Bishop crossing the Wye. Neither he nor Woolhope councillors could see how this would alleviate traffic issues through Hereford. Cllr Durkin gave some oversight of the General Scrutiny Committee meeting that both he and Cllr Slocombe attended the previous day in respect of the delays to the repairs to the B4224 through Fownhope. Some of the blame for the delays was aimed at Balfour Beatty who it seems have accepted that some of their expenses in relation to the repairs have been disallowed. It was also accepted that, in part recompense to both Woolhope and Fownhope a project would be agreed for each parish that they would fund (not to include road resurfacing and verge repairs which have been promised separately). Cllr Windham asked Cllr Durkin to investigate two incidents at Sapness Farm that have led to warnings being issued by the Environment Agency, one relating to manure piles and one to water diversion.

7. **Planning Matters.**

Taken next in order to include Cllr Durkin.

a) New applications:

b) P210337 Land adjacent The Fosbury Putley – change of use agricultural to residential curtilage. Council has no objections to this application.

c) P210457 Underhill Farm, Putley – Listed Building Consent – restorations to hop kiln building. Council supports this application.

d) P210571 4, Martins Close, Woolhope – 2 storey side single storey rear extensions. Council supports this application as an encouragement to existing residents to remain in Woolhope.

To consider any other planning matters.

The issue of the large mobile home in the grounds of a house in The Nurdens was again discussed. Council feels that the mobile home is actually more of a permanent feature and may represent a permanent residence getting round planning laws. Cllr Durkin advised that the planning officer has accepted that it is a mobile home and on that basis it is allowed. Council will write to Cllr Durkin asking that he take this matter further in the interest of residents.

3. **Minutes of the meeting of 23rd February 2021.**

The minutes of the parish council meeting held on 23rd February 2021 were **AGREED**.

4. **Highways Matters**

The B4224 having been discussed under the Ward councillors report no other highways issues were reported.

6. **Financial Matters**

a) The following payments were authorised:

£ 396.97 Clerk salary March 2021.

£ 99.20 Clerk tax March 2021.

£ 457.88 HALC/NALC affiliation and subscription fees 2021-22

£ 2,253.94 Pro-forma invoice Farm Forestry deer fencing.

£ 45.60 Reimbursement Mark July herbicide for Broadmoor Common.

£ 1,585.00 NDP consultant invoice Maxine Bassett.

b) The account balance £ 28,925.56 as at 26th February 2021 was noted.

c) The budget report was received and approved.

8. **Neighbourhood Development Plan.**

a) The consultant Maxine Bassett has processed nearly 300 questionnaires. Cllr Rolt is to deliver the last few and the consultant's report will be ready by Easter.

9. **Tennis Club lease.**

Cllr Slocombe will relay the council offer of £690.00 fixed for ten years to the tennis club.

10. **Appointment of a lengthsman.**

Cllr Slocombe reported that a drive round of the parish with Terry Griffiths had been a good start and identified many of the areas needing work. Terry had been due to have a team in Woolhope by now but issues with Covid had left him short handed. He apologised for this and has said he will attend at Woolhope in the first week of April which may actually be better as the Fownhope diversion will no longer be an issue.

11. **Website**

The new website is very close to being up and running. Eyelid Productions are to be asked to invoice for the work now in order to utilise the NDP grant which is an allowable expense.

12. **Broadmoor Common**

The question of opening an account at Evans Farm and Country Supplies was discussed. Although it may seem a reasonable request the clerk will seek advice from HALC.

13. **Footpaths.**

Cllr Powell having given his apologies the gates for stiles project will be held over. Council did consider the question of registration of existing/old footpaths as Public Rights of Way. It is believed that there is a deadline for such registrations and there are one or two that Council believes should be registered. The clerk will investigate.

14. **Correspondence**

No new correspondence received.

15. **Adopt a telephone kiosk scheme.**

The clerk has registered council's interest in purchasing a kiosk at a cost of £1. The potential uses are for footpath/local information leaflets and a defibrillator. The clerk to follow this up.

16. **The motor bikes that are regularly tearing up the field with the abandoned chicken sheds on the way up to the common.**

Cllr Slocombe has spoken to the landowner who has said that the field being used may be ploughed and the motor bikes moved further away.

17. **Date and time of the next meeting and items for the next agenda.**

The next council meeting will be Tuesday 27th April at 7.30pm.

Nick Richmond

Clerk

24th March 2021.

Signed By the Chairman:

Date.