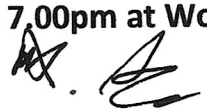


Woolhope Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Woolhope Parish Council
Held on Tuesday ~~24th October~~ 2023 7.00pm at Woolhope Village Hall
28th November



Present: Cllr. M Slocombe - Chairman
Cllr. M Windham
Cllr. P Hawkins
Cllr. A. May
Cllr L.Mair
Cllr S. Crozier

In attendance: Nick Richmond- Clerk.

1. **To receive apologies, declarations of interest and requests for dispensation.**
Apologies were received from Cllr. Rolt. No declarations of interest were made or requests for dispensation received.
2. **Ward Councillors Report.**
No report was received. Ward Councillor Barry Durkin is anticipating resuming his work in the New Year.
3. **To consider the co-option of a new councillor.**
No one has come forward to fill the vacancy.
4. **Open forum**
To receive the views of local residents on parish matters.
No residents were present.
5. **Meetings:**
To agree the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 24th October 2023.
The minutes were agreed and signed by the Chairman.
6. **Planning Matters**
 - a) **To consider new applications received since the last meeting now due for consideration:**
P233190 Land adj. to Puckmoor, Putley – New gate for access to agricultural land.
Councillors voted to support the application.
 - b) **The following planning decisions were noted:**
P232754 Woodland Cottage, Putley – 2 storey extension – Withdrawn
P232794 Avenue Cottage – Variation of 220394 – Approved with conditions.
P232869 Stoney Rise -App for approval of details reserved – Approved
P232415 Terrace Hall – Ground floor conversion of garage to ancillary accommodation – Approved with conditions
P231322 Sapness Farm – Certificate of lawful development – concrete yard and 7 pairs of stables – Approved with conditions
7. **Highways Matters**
 - a) **To consider any new highways issues for reporting to Balfour Beatty.**
No new issues were raised.
 - b) **To consider progress on social value projects.**
The clerk had received the quotation from Joe Price for rebuilding the wall at St George's Church Car Park, he has also received a quotation from Joe Brandt to remove the trees from around the wall. Further quotes are to be obtained but in the meantime the clerk is



28.1.24

to publish council's plans on the website and write to the residents in order both to gauge reaction, generate support and organise a day for parishioners to help clear the ivy from the wall.

8. Financial Matters

a) The following payments were authorised:

- £ 466.27 Clerk salary November 2023
- £ 116.40 Clerk tax November 2023
- £ 118.00 Clerk expenses November 2023.
- £ 68.74 Signs & Labels Broadmoor Common signs.
- £ 1,680.00 Terry Griffiths Contracts
- £ 1,500.00 Dave Smith Tree Services.
- £ 2,940.00 Kirkwells Ltd – NDP Consultancy.

b) The bank balance of £23,130.72 as 30th October 2023 was noted.

c) The current 2023-24 accounts were approved and bank reconciliation signed by Cllr Hawkins.

d) To consider the draft budget for 2024/25. The draft budget was again considered. The clerk advised that he had increased the precept request from £14k to £18k. Given the likely yearly expenditure on the rebuilding of the wall at St George's Church and the upgrade to the play area the increase would be unlikely to cover even half of the increased expenditure. The precept had not been increased for several years and could be reduced again once these major items of expenditure had been finished. Councillors voted to approve the budget for 2024-25 and the increase in the precept to £18k.

9. **Neighbourhood Development Plan.**

The council consultant has reviewed the Regulation 14 responses and provided suggested amendments to the draft NDP. The clerk will circulate these and parish council can decide in January what amendments to make. In the meantime the clerk has secured a further grant from Locality which covers the cost of the consultant.

10. **Broadmoor Common**

Mark July has agreed to redraft the expression of interest that Herefordshire Council require to move forward with a long lease contract for Broadmoor Common.

11. **Lengthsman.**

The lengthsman completed the sweep of the village. The clerk will reclaim the cost from Herefordshire Council under the Lengthsman Scheme. The clerk has instructed the lengthsman to carry out a further sweep of the village before Christmas and clear the drains through the village. Cllr Slocombe asked the clerk to find out what dates these would be done so residents can be asked to park in The Crown car park Monday to Thursday to leave the streets clear.

12. **Footpaths.**

No new footpaths issues were reported.

13. **Correspondence.**

No new correspondence received.

14. **Replacement noticeboards.**

Cllr May is to provide the clerk with contact details of the noticeboard constructor.

15. **Rebuilding the wall at the Church.**

See agenda item 7b.

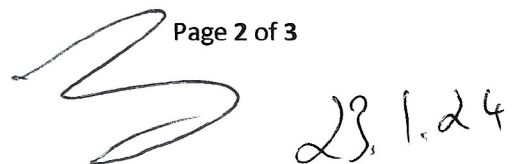
16. **To consider an accessible swing for the playground.**

The clerk is awaiting an updated quote from the supplier.

17. **Issues raised by the Village Hall committee:**

A. Cutting the trees back at the entrance to the Hall carpark and around the noticeboard on the carpark.

Cllr Hawkins advised that he would cut back the branches around the parish noticeboard.



Cllr Slocombe advised that the trees at the entrance to the car park had been cut back by Joe Brandt before and as he knew what this specialist job required council could ask him to go ahead without seeking alternative quotations.

B. Replace the rotting carpark barrier between the carpark and the Hall.

Cllr Hawkins advised that the village hall committee would prefer a like for like replacement of the barriers but would investigate alternatives.

- 18. To consider an application for an additional waste bin at the village hall and re-siting the existing bin to a more prominent position.**

Balfour Beatty have stated that there are no funds available for new bins. The clerk is to ask the Locality Steward for a replacement larger bin as the existing one fills with water. Council also discussed the request from Anthony Gunn for a dog bin at the entrance to Berryfield. As it is now known that Herefordshire Council will not install a dog bin or empty one. Councillors considered the best course of action was to put a further notice up asking people to take their dog mess with them and not be anti-social and leave it there for someone else to deal with. The clerk is to ask Mr Gunn if he has a preferred wording.

- 19. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 23rd January 2024 7.00pm at Woolhope Village Hall.**

Clerk - Nick Richmond
29th November 2023



23.1.24.

Woolhope Parish Council

Bank Reconciliation

As at 28.12.2023

Bank balance 31/3/2023	£	22,763.37
unpresented cheques	858 -£	1,176.00

£ 21,587.37

Opening Balance: £ 21,587.37

Add:

Receipts

£ 21,823.61

Less:

Expenditure

£ 23,449.06

Balance: £ 19,961.92

Balance per statement dated 28.12.2023

TOTAL

£ 19,961.92

£ 19,961.92

Less: Unpresented cheques

TOTAL £ -

Balance: £ 19,961.92



23/1/24

P. HAWKES
VICE-CHAIRMAN