

Woolhope Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Woolhope Parish Council Held on Tuesday 23rd January 2024 7.00pm at Woolhope Village Hall

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

In attendance: Nick Richmond-Clerk, Barry Durkin-Ward Councillor and seven members of the public

1. **To receive apologies, declarations of interest and requests for dispensation.**
Apologies were received from Cllrs. Rolt and May. No declarations of interest were made or requests for dispensation received.
2. **Ward Councillors Report.**
No report was received. Ward Councillor Barry Durkin will resume monthly reports soon. He advised of changes in Balfour Beatty and a phased move to in-house HC management with Balfour Beatty as a contractor rather than running highways matters for HC.
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.
Two representatives from the Hills Ford Stages motoring event were present to outline the event planned for Sunday 15th September 2024 and the road closures necessary to run it. Councillors asked questions and expressed their concerns. The applicants for the Seigewood Cottage planning application were present with their architects. The applicants introduced themselves and outlined their reasons for moving to Woolhope and their plans for the development of the listed building and addition of modern accommodation. The architects had a wall chart presentation of the design from which it appears that the council's NDP had been considered and in fact the new accommodation was set away from the listed building leaving the listed building in better view within the landscape.
5. **Meetings:**
To agree the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 28th November 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:**
P233621&622 Seigewood Cottage Woolhope – 4 bedroom dwelling.
Councillors voted to support the application.
P240119 The Orchards Woolhope – Two storey extension.
Councillors noted the reservation of a resident that additional foul water and sewage should be properly discharged so as not to cause environmental damage and voted to support the application with a note to this effect.
 - b) **To note any planning decisions made:**
None notified

27.2.24

7. **Highways Matters**
a) **To consider any new highways issues for reporting to Balfour Beatty.**
1) **To consider a sign at the green lane Bent Orchards warning delivery vehicles that they might get stuck.**
Council advised that a simple 'Do not follow Sat-Nav' sign be placed to warn drivers.
2) **To consider the road closures associated with the Hills Ford Stages motoring event proposed for Sunday 15th September 2024.**
Given the reservations of councillors the clerk is to ask the organisers for testimonials from other parishes where previous events have been held.
8. **Financial Matters**
a) **The following payments were authorised:**
£ 466.27 Clerk salary December 2023
£ 116.40 Clerk tax December 2023
£ 466.27 Clerk salary January 2024
£ 116.40 Clerk tax January 2024
£ 77.99 Clerk expenses January 2024.
£ 168.23 HC May 23 election.
£ 100.00 Eyelid Productions website support
£ 52.98 EEK Design Broadmoor Common signage
£ 30.00 Woolhope Village Hall room hire
c) **The bank balance of £19,961.92 as 28th December 2023 was noted.**
d) **To receive and approve the current 2023-24 accounts and sign the bank reconciliation.**
The accounts were approved and Cllr Hawkins signed the bank reconciliation. Council approved a document from Lloyds Bank allowing internet access to the bank account for the clerk and the document was signed in accordance with the bank mandate.
9. **Neighbourhood Development Plan.**
To discuss progress.
Council discussed the consultants suggested responses to the Reg 14 submissions which were accepted apart from some proposed changes in wording which were not accepted. The clerk is to advise the consultant to make the suggested changes to the draft NDP.
10. **Broadmoor Common**
Update on the expression of interest submitted to Herefordshire Council for a long lease.
The clerk advised that a revised EOI form drawn up by Mark July and completed by the clerk with financial details had been submitted to Herefordshire Council who were now examining it.
11. **Lengthsman.**
To receive an update.
The lengthsman had completed a further street sweep in the village and worked on drains in the village. Some further work is required and will be identified.
12. **Footpaths.**
To consider any footpaths issues.
The broken stiles reported by Barbara Fox were discussed along with a damaged footbridge at Lower Buckenhill. Cllr Hawkins will investigate and report.
13. **Correspondence.**
No new correspondence received other than from Barbara Fox as above..
14. **To receive an update on replacement noticeboards.**
The clerk has e-mailed and spoken to the supplier identified by Cllr May without much success, so the clerk will continue to chase.
15. **To consider quotations for rebuilding the wall at the Church and removal of the trees.**
Four quotations for the rebuilding of the wall had been received and two for removal of

the trees. Cllr Crozier is obtaining another quotation for the trees, and it was agreed that the trees and foliage would be removed first before any decision on rebuilding was made. The clerk will compose a letter to residents informing them of the project which Cllr Slocombe will amend and sign for distribution.

16. To consider an accessible swing for the playground.

On hold pending fresh quotations.

17. To consider new Issues raised by the Village Hall committee.

Cllr Hawkins advised that the village hall committee wished to have a combined meeting with parish council for better engagement and promotion of interest. It was agreed to hold a joint meeting on 26th March 2024. A defibrillator for the village in the old telephone box had been proposed by the village hall committee and council agreed that it was a good idea and the clerk would advise Barbara Fox and Bill Gunn that it wished to share in the cost.

18. To consider a Child Leukaemia clothes bank at the village hall.

Council agreed that this was a good idea and deserved it's support.

19. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 27th February 2024 7.00pm at Woolhope Village Hall.

Clerk - Nick Richmond

1st February 2024

27.2.24