

Woolhope Parish Council

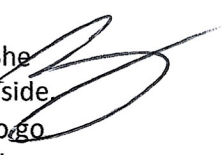
Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Woolhope Parish Council Held on Tuesday 27th May 2025 6.00pm at Woolhope Village Hall

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

In attendance: Nick Richmond-Clerk, Barry Durkin Ward Councillor and 3 members of the public.

1. **To elect a Chairman and receive the declaration of acceptance of office, and to elect a Vice-Chairman.**
Cllr Slocombe was elected unopposed as Chairman and Cllr Hawkins was elected unopposed as Vice-Chairman, and both signed their Declaration of Acceptance of Office.
2. **To appoint a footpaths officer and trees officer.**
Cllr Hawkins was appointed as footpaths officer and Joe Brandt will be invited to continue as trees officer.
3. **To receive apologies, declarations of interest and requests for dispensation.**
Apologies were received from Cllrs May and Scott. No requests for dispensation were received and no declarations of interests were made.
4. **Ward Councillors Report.**
The Ward Councillors report had been circulated. No questions arose.
5. **Open forum**
To receive the views of local residents on parish matters.
Barbara Fox advised of a 'wonky' stile at Tack Wood which Cllr Hawkins will look into. She also asked about putting a sign on the phone box to show that there is a defibrillator inside. Cllr Hawkins said that John Whitting who carried out the installation is sourcing a sign to go on the phone box. Parish Council is grateful to John Whitting for devoting a considerable amount of time and effort to ensure that the defibrillator is up and running.
6. **Meetings:**
To agree the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 29th April 2025.
The minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 29th April 2025 were agreed as a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.
7. **Planning Matters**
 - a) **To consider new applications received since the last meeting now due for consideration:**
No new applications.
 - b) **The following planning decisions were noted:**
P250708 – Broadmoor Cottage - Proposed single and two storey rear extension and single storey link to join to existing carport, which is to be converted to hobby room under permitted development – Approved with conditions.
P251196 – Sapness Farm - Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 3 and 6 attached to planning permission 202258 - Retrospective erection of two pairs of

26.6.25



stables and woodchip turnout paddocks (For DOC 3 and 6 see 251196) – Approved
P250561- The Firs – Ground and first floor extensions – Approved with conditions.

8. Highways Matters

a) To consider any new highways issues for reporting to Balfour Beatty.

Barbara Fox advised of two broken salt bins that need replacing. The clerk asked her to send him pictures and he would report them. Ward Councillor Durkin advised that. In relation to issues of HGV's using inappropriate roads it was possible to arrange for roads to be taken off sat-nav routes and it was agreed that the clerk would contact him about Glowsons Road and Scar Lane.

b) To consider the road closures associated with the Hills Ford Stages motoring event proposed for Sunday 15th September 2024.

Cllr Durkin advised that the results of consultations involving all parishes affected by the rally not just parishes in his ward will be collated by Herefordshire Council traffic management, and a meeting held to consider the results leading to a decision on road closures.

9. Financial Matters

The following payments were authorised:

£ 466.27 Clerk salary May 2025

£ 116.40 Clerk tax May 2025

£ 451.60 Business Services at CAS. Council Insurance renewal.

£ 1,265.00 Topline Services – gates and fencing.

£ 1,398.00 George Thomas – Metal gate for Berryfield and installation.

10. Neighbourhood Development Plan.

The clerk advised that a decision was required to select one of three external auditors by the 6th June. It was agreed that Cllr Rolt would consider the merits of the three and advise the clerk.

11. Lengthsman.

The clerk advised that an application had been submitted to Herefordshire Council to join the Parish Lengthsman Scheme for 2025-26. He has sent the lengthsman a new contract increasing the number of maintenance days to one a month, on the basis that around 50% of the expenditure can be reclaimed from Herefordshire Council.

12. Footpaths.

Cllr Hawkins reported that replacement gates have been received and installation of gates had started in the south of the county, with the 21 gates scheduled for Woolhope due for installation soon.

14. Correspondence.

No new correspondence received.

15. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 24th June 2025 7pm at Woolhope Village Hall.

Clerk - Nick Richmond

2nd June 2025

24.6.25
