

# Garway Parish Council

## Minutes of The Parish Council meeting of Garway Parish Council held in Garway School Hall on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at 7pm

**Councillors Present:** Chairman Cllr Tony Phillips, Vice – Chairman Cllr Richard Sparey, Cllr Chris Strange, Cllr Cara Campbell arrived at 7.30pm

**Also in attendance:** Parish Clerk Kath Greenow, 1 member of the public Cllr P Rone Cabinet Member for Highways Herefordshire Council Ward Cllr D Harlow

### 1. Apologies for Absence

1.1 Apologies accepted from, Cllr Craig Hooper & Cllr Rose Sparey

### 2. Declarations of Interest & Dispensations

2.1 None declared

### 3. Minutes

3.1 To approve and sign the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12/12/2016

It was RESOLVED: to approve and sign the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12/12/2016

3.2 To approve and sign the Confidential Minutes of 12/12/2016

It was RESOLVED: to approve and sign the Confidential Minutes of 12/12/2016

### 4. Reports

4.1 Clerk report

4.2 Ward Councillor David Harlow report:

#### Broadband

I have been copied into several items of correspondence from Garway residents (most notably Dr W G McGinley) unhappy with the service delivered by Fastershire. To date Fastershire has been a partnership between Gloucestershire & Herefordshire Councils and BT, we have exercised a clause which allowed us to invite offers from rivals to BT and have awarded the contract locally to a tech company called Gigaclear.

Fastershire project - the emphasis of the programme has been to extend the reach of high speed broadband deep into rural areas. The revised broadband strategy's key principle is that "by the end of 2018 everyone in Herefordshire and Gloucestershire will be able to access the broadband service they need". The figure for the beginning of the year is that 87% of Herefordshire residents have access to speeds of 30Mbps. Garway will be one of the earliest beneficiaries of the new contract with Gigaclear, this is very positive news and feedback from Cotswolds (Gigaclear test area) is that they provide a superior service to BT with completely virgin infrastructure.

#### February council

The main item for discussion at this meeting will be agreeing the council tax budget for 2017/8; like parish councils Herefordshire Council as a unitary authority is getting less in the form of grants and is having to make some tough choices. The proposal is likely to be that we increase council tax by the maximum possible (3.9%) in order that can continue to deliver services to the most vulnerable in society.

At this point in the meeting the Chairman brought forward agenda item 7 Highways

### 7. Highways

7.1 To receive an update on road issues reported to Balfour Beatty.

Discussion took place concerning several roads in the parish and the concern as to the poor state they are in especially the Skenfrith-Garway road. Cllr Rone understood the Parish Council's concerns and frustration with getting anything done on the roads in general. Regarding the Skenfrith-Garway road the clerk informed Cllrs that the Locality officer for the area Dave Atkinson had been made aware of the problem and he considered it too dangerous to pass through and he had referred the matter to Monmouthshire Council for action. Cllr Rone asked if the clerk could forward the correspondence concerning this road issues on to him.

The clerk had reported the following road issues to the locality officer and he had responded as:

Quab road, will be maintained in accordance with the new HMP. There are no long-term views for major works.

All roads in Herefordshire are assessed by independent consultants who then prioritise works on balance against all other such roads across the County.

2. White rocks, I have at last can get a decision to undertake some remedial works to re profile the dip just below the cattle grid.

Cllr Rone informed the Parish Council of highways work to be carried out in the parish as:

Garway Court area – U71411- U71416 White rocks area is to be surfaced dressed before 1<sup>st</sup> May 2017

7.2 To consider road issues for reporting to Belfour Beatty since last meeting

No new road issues to report

4.3 P3 Footpaths Officer report (RS)

No report

#### **5. Public Question Time**

Designated maximum period of 10 minutes to accommodate members of the public who may wish to either raise issues with or ask the Parish Council questions

No matters raised

#### **6. Village Hall**

6.1 To receive an update on Village hall

The clerk informed Cllr she had received some minutes from the village hall committee.

It was **RESOLVED**: that the clerk compile report on the village hall for the PC.

6.2 To consider appointing a representative from the Parish Council to village hall committee

Deferred

#### **8. Lengthsman & P3**

8.1 To consider work to be carried out by Lengthsman

No further work identified for the lengthsman, no further footpaths work identified.

#### **9. Footpaths**

9.1 To consider commenting on a letter from D Breakwell re diversion of footpaths crossing Hazelfield Farm

Discussion took place regarding the diversion of footpaths crossing Hazelfield Farm.

It was **RESOLVED**: to seek further information concerning the request from the locality steward Dave Atkinson as the request for the diversion of the footpaths also came into another parish and the PC would like to know their views on the request.

Decision deferred to the next meeting

Cara Campbell left the meeting at this point.

#### **10. Finance**

10.1 To note bank balance £9373.43

10.2 To approve payments to:

It was **RESOLVED** to pay;

Terry Griffiths l/man invoices

Clerk reimbursement for postage 5.76

ICO annual fee £35.00

St Nicholas Church Grosmont Magazine – Advert £5.00

Terry Griffiths invoice TGC 191- £300.00

A4 Office Products Ltd £47.63

Monmouthshire Council Invoice 70101711 Grounds Maintenance 2016/17 £1013.09

#### **11. Website**

11.1 To receive an update on new website

The clerk advised that the website would be up and running in the next 2 weeks. The clerk would produce a poster for information as to the website address would go up on the noticeboards

#### **12. Neighbourhood Plan**

12.1 To note the date of next meeting

Date of next meeting noted as 1<sup>st</sup> February 7.30pm at Garway Village Hall

#### **13. Correspondence**

13.1 To note correspondence received since last meeting

Western power -Business plan letter

HALC information Corner Dec 2016

Correspondence noted

**14. Date of next Scheduled meeting Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February at Garway School 7pm note**

**15. Matters Relayed to the Clerk for Agenda (no discussion) Defib update**

Garway Parish Council Chairman .....

Date .....

**A resolution was passed to exclude the public due to the confidential matters to be discussed**

#### **16. Commons court case**

16.1 To receive an update on court case progress