

GARWAY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held remotely on Thursday 24th June 2021 at 19.30hrs

Present ... Councillors: Tony Phillips (Chairman), Chris Strange, Rose Sparey, Phil Tucker and Richard Sparey.

Also, present were Ward Councillor Fagan, Mark Hearne (Parish Clerk) and three residents.

1. **Apologies for Absence** – Councillor Cara Campbell
2. **Declarations of Interest & Requests for Dispensation** – Councillors Rose and Richard Sparey declared a DPI against agenda item 6.5 (Planning Consultation 212126).
3. **Minutes of the previous meeting on 6th May 2021** – It was RESOLVED to adopt the minutes as a true record, and these will be signed by the Chairman in due course.
4. **Open Session**
 - 4.1 **Ward Councillor Toni Fagan** reported on the following issues:
 - 4.1.1 – The Cabinet has approved the Hereford Transport Strategy which majors on walking and cycling.
 - 4.1.2 – Herefordshire Council has formally challenged the Planning Inspector's decision on Lemsford arguing that it is contrary to planning law.
 - 4.1.3 – Herefordshire Council has approved its Covid 19 recovery Plan which has a focus on providing emotional support.
 - 4.1.4 – A petition signed by local people calling for action to reduce the speed limit to 20 mph.
 - 4.1.5 – Off road parking around the primary school at either end of the school day is a problem. It was RESOLVED that the Clerk write to Mr and Mrs Morris who own the land behind the school to gauge whether they would be interested in making it available for additional car parking.
 - 4.1.6- Prime Foundation are offering grants of up to £2k for community projects in Herefordshire.
 - 4.1.7 – Herefordshire Council have decided that prior notification is required for the proposed demolition of the old Garway Primary School. It was noted that the Parish Council will be formally invited to comment as soon as a planning application is published. Ward Councillor Fagan suggested that if any activity is spotted at the school, it should be reported to the Enforcement Officer at Herefordshire Council.
 - 4.2 **Local Residents**– A resident asked if there were any plans for a fun day later in the summer. The only other issue raised concerned two abandoned cars. It was

RESOLVED that Councillor Strange would forward photographs and locations of the cars to the Clerk and he will raise the issue directly with Herefordshire Council.

5. Sale of the old village hall – The Chairman reported that the sale is progressing with an exchange of contracts considered to be imminent. A further update will be provided at the next meeting.

6. Planning - To consider planning applications received from Herefordshire Council.

6.1 – Planning Consultation 211637 – Lower Town, Garway, Hereford. Proposed livestock building. In discussion, Councillors raised no substantive objections but commented that the plans were light on proposed drainage systems to support the building. It was RESOLVED that the Clerk responds to the LPA accordingly.

6.2 – Planning Re-Consultation 202368 – Cwm Maddoc Farm, Broad Oak Hereford. Construction of tennis court in north part of the garden and planting of various trees. During discussion, Councillors signalled their support for the proposals in the planning application, and it was RESOLVED that the Clerk responds to the LPA accordingly.

6.3 – Planning Consultation 211570 – 3 Mountain View, Broad Oak, Hereford. Proposed external cladding to rear gable. Councillors offered no comment on this planning application.

6.4 – Planning Re-Consultation 192577 – St Marys Roman Catholic Church, Broad Oak, Hereford. Demolition of former church and erection of a pair of semi-detached 3 bedroomed cottages.

Councillors were satisfied that the site of the proposed development was within the designated NDP settlement boundary but raised concerns over the adequacy of the proposed drainage system. It was RESOLVED that the Clerk confirms the Parish Council support for the planning application.

6.5 – Planning Consultation 212126 – Nantywain Barn, Broad Oak Herefordshire. Proposed detached ancillary outbuilding to main dwelling (alternative siting and design to extant planning approval references 111924/F and 120283/F). Councillors signalled their support for the proposals in the planning application, and it was RESOLVED that the Clerk responds to the LPA accordingly.

7. Finance

7.1 The current bank balance is £43,140.43.

7.2 It was RESOLVED to make the following payments:

7.2.1 Clerk's salary in accordance with his employment contract (May & June 2021)

7.2.2 PAYE (May & June 2021) - £372.80

7.2.3 Postage - £7.92

7.2.4 Zoom Subscription - £28.77.

7.2.5 HALC Internal Audit Fee- £240.00

7.2.6 Lengthsman - £720.00 – there was a brief discussion on the future cost and arrangements for emptying bins and it was RESOLVED to include this on the agenda for the next meeting.

7.2.7 OWL Good Neighbour Scheme - £250.00

7.3 Internal Audit Report (2021/22) – Councillors noted the recommendations and observations included in the Internal Audit report and agreed to consider an action plan to address those issues.

- 7.4 Certificate of Exemption 2020/21 – Councillors approved the Certificate of Exemption.
- 7.5 Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2020/21 - Councillors approved the Annual Governance Statement 2020/21
- 7.6 Section 2 – Accounting Statement 2020/21 - Councillors approved the Accounting Statement 2020/21
- 7.7 Financial Monitoring 2021/22 – The Clerk referred to the spreadsheet circulated prior to the meeting noting that based on spend to date and an extrapolation of future expenditure/income the reserves at year end would be circa £32k.

8. Clerk Correspondence – Correspondence on the following issues has been received:

8.1 – A resident has written raising concerns over the impact of grazing of cattle on the Common. The Chairman commented that where commoner’s rights have been granted, they are fully entitled to graze cattle. Councillors also noted that the correspondent has installed stakes on the Common and this is not permitted, and this should be made clear when the Clerk responds.

8.2 – A resident had written asking the Parish Council to expedite the introduction of a governance model for the Commons as this is considered essential for its future maintenance and management. This issue was covered later in the meeting under the Commons.

9. Commons – Councillor Tucker advised that there was nothing further to report since the last meeting, but it was understood that the proposed governance model from the Garway Hill Commoners Association had been delayed due to a reduced number of people serving on the committee. Councillors recognised the need for developing a plan for the Commons and it was RESOLVED that the first step in the process was to invite Caroline Hanks to visit the Commons and it was suggested that she be accompanied by Councillors Strange, Tucker, Campbell and Rose Sparey. Councillor Tucker also asked if the croquet pitch could not be cut so short.

10. Footpaths – Councillor Tucker reported that there is a loose gate post at GW21. Also, the metal steps leading out of the Garway Hill road are overgrown and require clearing. It was RESOLVED that the Clerk refers this task to the Lengthsman.

11. Lengthsman – Councillor Strange reported that the Lengthsman’s priorities remains the restoration of 50 metres of a Common verge opposite the public house and the ditch work at Tennesfield.

12. Children’s Playground - An application for a grant will be submitted to Bernard Sunley which, if successful will be added to the £9.6k already sourced from Awards for All. Ward Councillor Fagan mentioned that a local funding stream (Prime Foundation Funding) may be worth exploring. The Chairman agreed to seek an update on possible private donations. It was RESOLVED that a possible donation from the Parish Council should be included on the agenda for the next meeting.

13. West Mercia Police Charter – Following discussion, it was RESOLVED that the Clerk informs West Mercia police that speeding is the key concern of the Parish Council.

14. Demolition of Old Garway Primary School – This was discussed earlier in the meeting and there was nothing further to add.

15. Matters for the next scheduled meeting on Thursday 29th July 2021.

- Old Garway Primary School.
- Emptying of dog bins.
- Fun Day.

Meeting closed at 20.12hrs.

SIGNED DATE