

# **Minutes of Allensmore Parish Council Meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at 8.00pm at Allensmore Village Hall**

**Present:** Cllrs Jim Lawrence, Jeremy Lawrence (Chair), C Watkinson, D Cooke, S Lawrence, S Williams and T Cramp (Vice Chair)

**In attendance:** Mrs A Wright (Clerk), Ward Councillor Jon Johnson, Locality Steward Dave Atkinson, PCSO Lowri Anderson, Footpath Officer Debbie Mumford and 16 members of the public.

## **1. Introduction and welcome by the Chairman**

The Chair of the Parish Council, Cllr Jeremy Lawrence, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## **2. Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies received.

## **3. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

## **4. Open Session**

The key subject of conversation during the open session was also a planning item concerning the planning application 153121 which is detailed under the planning item, agenda item 10. The planning was for four broiler units, feed bins and attenuation pond etc. The Meeting heard representation from various members of the public regarding the application. People present were expressing concerns over increased traffic and road safety issues; odour, dust and particulates, noise and light pollution, industrialisation of a rural area with the potential to impact on quality of life, enjoyment of the countryside and tourism. There was input on the topics of the storage and spreading of the muck produced, levels of toxins present, concern for human health and much concern regarding the impact on rural roads due to increased HGV traffic and also "poor visibility" on the approach to the access road. Concerns were expressed regarding possible pollution of the water systems and issues of run off, drainage and the potential for flooding. It was commented that the Planning Department are there to "protect interests" and someone asked whether this was a "human rights" issue.

The Parish Council heard all of the representations and expressed concern on behalf of the residents regarding odours, flooding and highway matters. Ward Cllr Johnson would check regarding the yellow sign notice for the application. It was noted that comments made about the application may be made individually and the Parish Council comments

would be drafted, and circulated for approval by the members, before being submitted to the Planning Authority.

## **5. Brief Verbal Reports:**

**5.1 Local Policing Team.** Bulletin Updates had been circulated. PCSO Lowri Anderson introduced herself and updated the meeting regarding recent incidents. There had been road traffic collisions resulting in slight injuries, drink driving and lamping incidents reported. Operations to stop lamping were ongoing. People were asked to report anything suspicious. Incidents had occurred where gates had been left open. If the activity is in progress then report this via 999, if suspicions held then report using 101. The PCSO then left the Meeting.

**5.2 Footpath Officer:** The Footpath Officer, Debbie Mumford, came into the meeting briefly. There were some issues at Hollyhouse Lane and some gates were in need of new posts. Cllr Williams would be liaising with the Footpath Officer regarding works required. There were some plans to change stiles for gates. Any gates required for the works would be supplied by Balfour Beatty and they could then be fitted with payment made from the P3 Footpath Scheme, once it had been established exactly what was required. The current P3 budget was £740.00.

Both Dave Atkinson and Debbie Mumford left the meeting at this point.

**5.3 Lengthsman Co-ordinator:** Cllr Jeremy Lawrence reported on items carried out and two invoices had been received for payment for works completed in line with local drainage clearance and maintenance requirements.

## **5.4 Locality Steward**

Dave Atkinson began his report by saying that matters had generally been pretty good but pot holes were now erupting again due to rain frosts etc. Cobhall Common had been a particular issue. Since the parties had last met, the Locality Steward had offered to jet out the system there and get a camera survey varied out to examine the pipe. He had been to collect the camera equipment and had liaised with the Ward Cllr, Jon Johnson on this. When he went to collect the equipment he was told by the Land Drainage Team not to touch the pipe as the area was "polluted". A previous meeting had been held with all parties present, Locality Steward, Parish Council, Ward Cllr. the only party not represented at the site meeting had been the Land Drainage Team. The question was asked "What was the sub contractor asked to do?" He was asked to renew the pipe. Once he had commenced the work it was found that the services would have required a "massive" hole to be created to deal with the issue. Therefore the

decision was taken to carry out a “different job” at the scene, Local “advice” was taken and a job of work had been completed but not to the original specification. The Land Drainage Team would be asked to accept the responsibility for taking things forward and a meeting with them and the Environmental Health Department would be held on site. The Environmental Health Department would communicate details regarding any contamination to the Land Drainage Department. The Officer from Balfour Beatty, Joel Hockenhall, acknowledges the Environmental Health Report. The Locality Steward would be advising details. It was noted that the Lengthsman has a “camera”. Ward Cllr Johnson would be contacting Richard Perkins about the drainage issues on Cobhall and would be liaising with key parties to try to facilitate some “joined up thinking” on the issues from Environmental Health and Land Drainage with a view to resolving the outstanding concerns.

#### **5.4 Ward Councillor**

Ward Cllr Jon Johnson updated the meeting regarding the adoption of the Core Strategy which had been passed with no objections on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2015. Neighbourhood Development Plans can now be adopted and utilised. He gave a brief resume of the smallholdings review and the management overview and scrutiny committee. The Southern Link Road planning application had been withdrawn due to an issue around Historic England. It would not be until the New Year that the application would come forward for determination. There was a warning regarding fire safety following a fire related death in Orcop. Herefordshire Fire Brigade was offering free safety checks for qualifying households.

#### **6. To approve minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2015.**

**Resolved:** - The Minutes of the Meeting, held on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2015, were approved by the Council and then signed by the Chairman

#### **7. Clerk Update on Action Items**

The Clerk updated the meeting regarding VAT reclaim and Lengthsman invoicing and contract plus actions taken.

#### **8. To note correspondence**

The Clerk advised re some of the correspondence received including a request for financial support from Dore Community Transport. This was discussed and it was proposed that a donation of £50.00 be made as in a previous year. Proposed by Cllr Cramp and seconded by Cllr Jim Lawrence. Carried

## 9. Finance

9.1 **Resolved:** The following list of payments were approved, prop by Cllr Cramp and sec Cllr Jeremy Lawrence:

Mrs A Wright (salary £332.80, mileage £8.33, stationery £8.00)	£349.13
Tax due on salary payment (Payable to The Post Office)	£83.00
Mr T Griffiths (Lengthsman)	£420.00
Mr T Griffiths (Lengthsman)	£330.00
Dore Community Transport (Donation)	£50.00
Total	£1232.13

9.2 **Resolved:** The bank balance was noted.

9.3 To confirm precept request: Cllr Cramp explained the details of the proposed budget and after discussion it was proposed by Cllr Watkinson and seconded by Cllr Cooke that the precept for 2016/2017 should be requested for £5000.00. The motion was accepted by a majority of those members present and was therefore resolved.

## 10. Planning

There had been two applications received:

APPLICATION NO & SITE ADDRESS:	153121 - Land South of Bowling Green Farm, Clehonger, Hereford, Herefordshire,
DESCRIPTION:	Proposed erection of 4 no broiler rearing buildings, 10 no feed bins, boiler building, straw storage building, hardstandings, attenuation pond and re-alignment of access.
PARISH:	Allensmore
APPLICATION TYPE:	Planning Permission

The Parish Council would be responding to the application.

APPLICATION NO & SITE ADDRESS:	153116 - The Butts, Allensmore, Hereford, Herefordshire HR2 9BJ
DESCRIPTION:	Proposed change of use of part of field to domestic use for replacement outbuilding and proposed new

	agricultural building.
APPLICANT(S):	Mr & Mrs Chris Donovan
GRID REF:	OS 345771, 235995
APPLICATION TYPE:	Planning Permission

The Allensmore Parish Council commented in support of the application stating that the project encourages home working and does not adversely overlook any neighbouring properties.

### **11. To discuss further developments regarding broadband provision**

Cllr Cramp had circulated an update e mail on 23<sup>rd</sup> November detailed the transmitter switch off and options being worked around. It was noted that BT were virtually "there" with a solution regarding Cabinet 73 at Belmont without the requirement for there to be a kiosk "adoption" to facilitate this. It was still not quite certain how far the signal would reach. A solution was being looked at for a secondary unit by the "Granary". Further information contained in the update was that to pursue a solution for providing fast broadband to the remainder of the area, contact had been made with BT Openreach's community fibre group following their "Never say No" initiative:

([www.openreach.co.uk/communityfibre](http://www.openreach.co.uk/communityfibre)).

They have invited the community to register with their community engagement team which would then develop and cost potential solutions which can then be considered and, if considered suitable, part funded by the community. Individuals are proposing to do this. This community engagement team has already started to consider solutions to upgrade and power the secondary distribution box (located at the junction where the cut through lane from Church Road to Cobhall Lane crosses the A465). The box provides connections to houses in Cobhall and if a solution can be found this would provide high speed broadband to houses in Cobhall on the 01432 exchange. This still means a solution needs to be found for the houses in Allensmore "Village" i.e. Church Road etc. which are linked directly to cabinet 73 at Belmont and which would be included as part of the community engagement project with BT Openreach.

The Openreach Team have asked that households in this area, who want high speed broadband, indicate this. The co-ordinators within the PC are proposing to set up an on line method to collect this information and a link will be distributed soon.

A Working Party to progress the Broad Band initiative was proposed by Cllr Cramp and seconded by Cllr Sally Lawrence. Cllrs S Lawrence, T Cramp and Jeremy Lawrence plus residents Mr and Mrs Hancox would meet to progress the initiative and assemble a list of all those who may be interested. Thanks were recorded to Cllr Cramp for all of the work and research that he has put into trying to secure options for the community in regard to the continuation of a broad band service for the area.

The Parish Council will keep the community informed as matters progress.

## **12. Update on parish drainage, pipe work and flooding issues**

Drainage matters were covered under previous agenda items re the Ward Cllr and Locality Steward

## **13. Village Matters**

No additional items were raised.

## **14. Items for next Agenda**

Update on Cobhall Common drainage and broad band update

## **15. Confirmation of date of next Meeting**

The next Meeting will be held on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2016, at the Allensmore Village Hall at 8.00pm.

The Meeting closed at 9.10pm

Allensmore Parish Council Meeting

26<sup>th</sup> November 2015

Signed .....as a true record by Councillor (Chairman)

Dated: - 28<sup>th</sup> January 2016

For information about what's going on, local groups and businesses, the Church, some local history and the Parish Council, including minutes of past meetings and dates for future meetings, visit the Allensmore website.

[www.allensmore.org.uk](http://www.allensmore.org.uk)