

ALLENSMORE PARISH MEETING

Minutes of the parish meeting held on 18th May 2011

Council members present: Mr. S. Williams (chair), Mr. J. Lawrence, Mr. A. Cramp, Mr. S. Mumford, Mr W. J. Lawrence, Mr. D. Cooke and Mrs S. Lawrence.

Members of the public: Mrs Liz Goodyear, Mr Simon Bounds, Mrs Carol Williams, Mrs Dianne Tricklebank, Mrs Janet Smith.
Mrs Ruth Pritchard - Footpaths Officer.

Apologies received from: Mr. Brian Lawrence, Mr. James Knipe (District Councillor)

Allensmore Afternoon Club

The Club meets every other Thursday for a variety of talks, activities and outings and continues to be as popular as ever. The membership numbers remain fairly constant with some new members replacing those who are no longer able to come. They have speakers on a wide variety of subjects and use the WRVS minibus for outings and always include afternoon tea in their trips. They also have a well attended Christmas lunch which is cooked for them by the Two Sisters Catering. Members without transport are collected by minibus from Kingstone and Clehonger, an area of the Club which incurs a financial loss, but fortunately this has so far been covered by funding.

WI

Mrs Liz Goodyear gave us an insight in to our local Women's Institute Club. Allensmore is currently in its 87th year having started in 1926. A programme of events is arranged for each year which includes a quiz, BBQ, Christmas dinner, speakers, competitions and outings. Club officers for this year are: President - Mrs Liz Goodyear, Secretary – Mrs Smith and Treasurer – Mrs Gay Rolls.

"Our Allensmore WI has 22 members and we meet every month on a Thursday evening. This year we have had 4 speakers so far, on topics including Russia, The Navy, Hereford Cathedral and how to build a small business.

Next month our summer outing is taking us by coach to Bath for the day and in August we shall have a BBQ in one of our members gardens. In December we all get together for a Christmas dinner.

Of course, there are the traditional activities of jam making and cakes. But, there are also important campaigns where we are able to have our say locally, before they are decided on via resolutions which are voted for on a National basis. The national WI campaign for the year is for 'Prevention of Mega Farms and to Save our Libraries. There is so much to do and definitely not enough time to do it all! Do come to one of our meetings and see for yourself! We welcome all new members of any age."

Young Farmers

The club leader advised that this is a group of teenagers aged 13 – 20 who meet every other Wednesday for talks and activities.

There is a fluctuating membership of between 10 and 30 youngsters. They have entered quizzes, served breakfast to the community, entered the county drama competition and participated in a number of competitions for the Young Farmers Pre-Rally and Rally day including cooking, flower arranging, stock judging, sheep shearing, photography, dancing, poultry boning, woodwork and craft. Allensmore Members came 4th in the Entertainment Competition in February this year.

Church

There is a service at the church each week. The Parish Church Council meets each week. Highlights for 2010 included £3,000 raised at last year's Flower Festival; Ramble and BBQ afternoons continued and have been well attended and helped with the never ending need to fundraise for the upkeep and running of the church; A Harvest Festival supper was well supported at the hall and a pass-over supper was held in the church attended by over 50 people from all the parishes. A Ceilidh with supper at the church was held on the evening of Friday 29th May to celebrate the Royal Wedding. Events for the year ahead, 2011 include various ramble and BBQ's and on Saturday the 18th June 2011 a Hog Roast will take place at The Butts.

Pateshall Hall

This is well used by various groups (WI, Allensmore Afternoon Club, Young Farmers, Ballet lessons, Bicycle club) and for regular Bingo and Whist drives, with 80% booking. Bingo proceeds are split between the upkeep of the hall and charities. The hall has been redecorated and roof tiles replaced. We now have 2 recycling bins and their use was advised. Roof insulation would be useful, but we need to look into the possibility of a funding grant.

Allensmore Morris men

They are happy to continue and offer their services free of charge to village events. New members are always welcome to join in 'practice' on Monday evenings from 7.30pm.

Police

The parish council have a good relationship with local community support officer Fiona Witcher. Either Fiona or one of her colleagues attend council meetings and welcome feedback from members regarding local policing issues.

Footpaths

Ruth confirmed that a good start has been made, but highlighted that a balance of £500 remains, which must be made use of. Clarification as to responsibility for payment of the bill was raised and identified. The contractor will be liaising direct with Ruth in the forward planning of outstanding work.

Communication

Local events can be advertised on local notice boards available at the hall and on Cobhall Common, in the church magazine 'Tracking the News' or the village e-board (administered by Steve Mumford).

Parish Council

Steve thanked Jim Lawrence for his many years as Chairman.

18 Planning Applications have been considered this year and many were visited by the Planning Working Group who felt that this was an effective and beneficial way forward. The parish council consists of 7 unpaid members: Mr. Steve Williams (current Chairman), Mr. Jeremy Lawrence, Mr. Steve Mumford, Mr. Tony Cramp, Mr. Derek Cooke, Mrs Sally Lawrence and Mr. Jim Lawrence. We have an unpaid Footpaths Officer: Mrs Ruth Pritchard. Steve outlined the likely impact of the future changes within local government.

Steve highlighted the considerable contributions that Brian Lawrence has made in his time as a councillor.

Footpaths

Allensmore have joined the P3 parish paths scheme. We receive a grant for minor repair work on our local footpaths. Some materials that are required are sourced through the council therefore some delay may be seen when repairs are reported. Requests can be made to our footpaths officer Mrs Ruth Pritchard on 01432 277380 (evenings only).

Various paths were cleared and strimmed around stiles, gates and bridges. Landowners are responsible for re-instating and keeping paths clear across arable land. Thanks were expressed to Ruth as footpath officer and contractor Paul Wright for their work this year.

Planning

As usual, some applications are relatively straightforward and cause no concern for the Parish Council, but others require careful thought for neighbours and the surrounding area. Whilst we can offer local knowledge to comment, support or disagree on proposed planning ultimately the final decision lies with the planning officers and Hereford Council planning committees, who have to follow the relevant planning acts, policies and unitary development plans to come to a decision. Members of the council who have an interest, family involved or neighbour a planning application will declare an interest and act accordingly.

We have dealt with planning applications on 18 properties this year and although a few applications were returned for changes, most were accepted by Hereford Council planning officers.

Signed _____

Dated: _____

Annual Parish Meeting

18th May 2011

ALLENSMORE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Annual meeting held on 18th May 2011.

Council members present: Mr. S. Williams (chair), Mr. J. Lawrence, Mr. S. Mumford,
Mr. D. Cooke, Mr W. J. Lawrence, Mrs Sally Lawrence and
Mr Tony Cramp

Members of the public:

Members were reminded that 'Declaration of Acceptance Forms' and 'Financial Information Forms' should be updated within 28 days of any changes.

1.0 Apologies

Mr. James Knipe (District councillor)

2.0 Elections

Proposed by J. Lawrence and seconded by S. Mumford and agreed by all members.

Chairman: Mr. Steve Williams

Proposed by Steve Williams and seconded by Mr Derek Cook and agreed by all members.

Vice Chairman: Mr. Jeremy Lawrence

3.0 Planning Committee

It was agreed that the Planning Committee would comprise of:

W.J. Lawrence, S. Williams, J. Lawrence and S. Mumford.

4.0 Finance

It was agreed that any two signatories between the Chairman (S. Williams), Vice-Chairman (J. Lawrence) and W. J. Lawrence would sign cheques on behalf of the Parish Council.

An income and expenditure record was inspected and approved by the Council, subject to finite approval by Trevor Edwards.

Mr. Trevor Edwards has confirmed that he is happy to continue as our internal auditor.

5.0 Other items for consideration

It was agreed that the District Councillor Mr James Knipe should be invited to attend meetings.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____

Parish Council Annual Meeting

18th May 2011

ALLENSMORE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 18th May 2011.

Council members present: Mr. S. Williams (Chair), Mr W. J. Lawrence, Mr. J. Lawrence,
Mr. Tony Cramp, Mr. S. Mumford, Mr. D. Cooke and Mrs S.
Lawrence

Members of the public: None

The Chairman opened the meeting with thanks to Mr. Brian Lawrence for his hard work over the many years he has been a Councillor. Brian was an invaluable member, with extensive local knowledge of the parish and its workings.

1.0 Apologies

Mr. James Knipe (District Councillor)

2.0 Councillors Declaration of Personal or Prejudicial Interest

Mr Tony Cramp explained that as an employee of Herefordshire Council he would in some circumstances need to declare an interest. With regard to the 'Parish Plan', he has highlighted a possible overlap in relation to his role at work.

3.0 Minutes of Meeting held on 5th April 2011

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed.

4.0 Planning

a) The following application was passed by Hereford Council:
Thornbrook Allensmore – New vehicular access, drive and turning area.

b) The following new applications were discussed:

[Courtlands - Allensmore](#)

Planning confirm that they have not received an application, but should have been notified of the owners intentions, thus giving the opportunity to make a judgement on the impact locally. A large building has been erected and no record is held of a planning application. The Clerk has spoken to the Planning Department @ Herefordshire council and they have confirmed that they are looking into the complaint regarding the new building at Courtlands. They have assured me that the matter will be fully investigated and we will be informed of the outcome of the investigation in due course. No: E/2011/082248/ENS

[Brooklyn, Clehonger](#): - Two storey rear extension.

We have no objections to this application

[Lower Mawfield Farm, Allensmore](#) - Creation of an additional window in the gable end of the eastern elevation at first floor level.

We have no objections to this application, but we feel that retrospective planning on a listed building is not something that we should like to encourage.

5.0 Finance to consider

The following payments were agreed:

AON Local Council Insurance renewal date 1 st June 2011	£ 347.26
Hall hire fee for 2010-2011	£ 30.00
Longfield invoice for Footpath work	£ 57.48

The P3 Footpath grant of £0 has been received.

6.0 Annual Audit 2010/11

Members confirmed that they do not use the appointed auditors for personal or business purposes.

A short discussion regarding the effectiveness of last year's internal audit was held and the Annual Audit for year to 31st March 2011 was reviewed, approved and signed.

7.0 District Councillors Report

Outgoing Councillor Jo Fishley has not sent members a report.

Mr. James Knipe (District Councillor), joined the meeting at this point.

8.0 Additional items for consideration

- a) Potholes/dropped verges
Conditions along the U73416 known locally as Blackhall Lane have now substantially deteriorated since last viewed by AMEY and the Clerk has asked that this road in particular could be viewed as a priority case. They have been sent over a comprehensive but realistic listing with a request for some indication of timescales for a meeting. They have not as yet been in a position to confirm diary availability.
- b) Overhanging Branches/Verges
Concern has been raised by Mrs Cotterall of Rose Cottage regarding several large trees in the vicinity of the bus-stop at Cobhall Common, which currently overhangs the road to such a degree, that when the inevitable high winds and heavy rains arrive, they will constitute a health and safety hazard to all. She also feels that overgrown verges look untidy and can obscure the views of motorists at junctions. It was felt that this will be resolved shortly when the normal seasonal hedge and bank trimming takes place.
- c) Parish Plan
It was felt that in order to give full consideration, more time is needed to fully research whether the hard work involved will justify the level of benefits achieved. The next stage should be to get Lynda or Sophie to come along to October meeting.
- d) Viability of meeting every two months. This will be considered in greater depth at a later date, once the effects of Localism have been better defined.
- e) Training costs for the Parish Clerk have been approved for all six courses to be taken later in the year.

Signed: _____

Dated : _____

