

## **Minutes of Allensmore Parish Council Meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2014 at 8.00pm at Allensmore Village Hall**

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

**In attendance:** Mrs A Wright (Clerk), Ward Councillor Jim Knipe, Footpath Officer Debbie Mumford, P3 Footpath Contractor Paul Wright and 3 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 apologies received from Cllr D Cooke

### **3. Declarations of Interest**

There were declarations of interest by Cllr Williams regarding planning applications for Deans Cottage and Traphouse Farm House.

### **4. Open Session**

There were no contributions made by the public during the Open Session.

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

5.1 **Local Policing Team.** Not present although Bulletin Updates have been circulated.

5.2 **Footpath Officer** The Footpath Officer gave the following report:  
"I am very pleased to report that the footpath in Allensmore known as AN5 has re opened. I am grateful to Paul Wright for installing a bridge on the footpath following the installation earlier this year of gates and fingerposts to the path. I would ask the committee to approve the invoice for the work from Longfield Services in the sum of £263.49. The next work scheduled is for gates to be installed at either end of the orchard at Upper Mawfield on AN26. Once this is done I anticipate us having approximately £300.00 remaining in this financial year".

### **5.3 Lengthsman**

No further instructions at the meeting. Cllr Lawrence would be talking to the Lengthsman, two weeks from the meeting, about Winnal Common with a view to looking at the ditches and getting the water flowing better.

## **6. To approve minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 24/07/14.**

**Resolved:** - The Minutes of the meeting, held on 24<sup>th</sup> July 2014, were approved by the Council and then signed by the Chairman

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

The Clerk updated the meeting re the action items including attending a Balfour Beatty Information Update Evening and obtaining a Newsletter and correspondence from Balfour Beatty including helpful information in a leaflet format concerning responsibilities for land owners etc. for ditches and drainage in the County. Road issues and items of concern had been logged with Balfour Beatty for action.

## **8. To note correspondence**

The Clerk advised re some of the correspondence received. These included changes to the Electoral Registration system, updates to the retention of bus services initiative, information about winter gritting from Balfour Beatty, Herefordshire Public Realm Services Update from Balfour Beatty and information from Barclays Bank. There had also been a change of e mail address communication from Cllr Watkinson. There was also the notification of Precept Request Form, for completion by the Parish Council, from Herefordshire Council.

## **9. Finance**

9.1 **Resolved:** The following list of payments were approved, prop by SW and sec CW:

Mrs A Wright (salary £271.88, mileage £11.70)	£283.58
Tax due on salary payment (Payable to The Post Office)	£67.80
Longfield Services (bridge installation)	£263.49
Donation to Dore Community Transport (as agreed at item 9.3)	£50.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£664.87</b>

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

9.3 **Resolved:** A donation of £50.00 would be made to Dore Community Transport following consideration of their request for financial assistance and presentation of their accounts. Proposed by Cllr Williams and seconded by Cllr Crump. Carried

## **10. Planning**

There had been two applications to consider since the previous meeting and comments had been returned as follows:

**SITE:** Deans Cottage, Allensmore, Herefordshire, HR2 9AT

**DESCRIPTION:** Proposed demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings. Replacement dwelling with detached garage.

**APPLICANTS** Mr & Mrs C Smith

**APPLICATION NO:** P142391/F

**GRID REF:** OS 345026, 234677

**APPLICATION TYPE:** Planning Permission

The Comments made by the PC were:

Due to the somewhat rundown state and lack of any architectural merit of Deans Cottage the Parish Council have no objection to the proposal to build a replacement dwelling, nor to the style or position of the proposed . We do feel that we must record our concerns about the apparent increase in the height and significant increase in overall size of the replacement dwelling, however".

**SITE:** Traphouse Farm House, Allensmore, Herefordshire, HR2 9BP

**DESCRIPTION:** Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for a Proposed use or development – part single and part two storey residential extension

**APPLICANTS** Mr R Wall

**APPLICATION NO:** P142656/V

**GRID REF:** OS 345182, 235403

**APPLICATION TYPE:** Certificate of Lawfulness (CLOPD)

This was seen as confirmation of the requirement to make sure that everything was "above board". This was discussed and it was resolved by the Parish Council that this would be for the Planning Enforcement Officer and Planning Officers to determine the situation as to the remit being within parameters or requiring planning permission. The Parish Council would not be commenting on the Certificate of Lawfulness as this did not constitute a planning application.

### **11. To sign application for Clehonger Neighbourhood Plan in relation to Poplar Road**

Further to the joint meeting, held with Parish Council members from Clehonger Parish Council and the agreement regarding Poplar Road houses lying within Allensmore, that they be included within the Clehonger Neighbourhood Plan area the joint application form was signed by the Chair. A letter for distribution to all residents, whose properties

were captured within the designated area, was also jointly signed by the Chairs of both Parish Councils. This would now be delivered by the Clerk.

## **12. Ward Councillor's Report and Parish Councillors' Reports**

The Ward Councillor updated the meeting including information on a meeting he had had with Linzy Outtrim, the Locality Steward, on 6<sup>th</sup> August when the drainage systems and problems with the size and capacity of the existing drains across the fields etc. had been identified. There would be a commitment to do something to remedy the situation within this financial year as winter was again approaching and was invariably an issue for the drainage. The capacity would need to be increased and ditches would need to be cleared. Balfour Beatty would be serving notices, where necessary, to get the drains cleaned out. Linzy would be checking with a specialist drainage expert and advising regarding timescales for the works. The Ward Cllr thanked the Clerk for sorting out a problem with one of the local roads which had now been repaired to the satisfaction of the residents.

There was also information and discussion on the future of the Herefordshire Council owned smallholding network. There was concern that some of the new road networks would potentially "obliterate" the smallholdings they crossed. Some options were being discussed as to whether the Council may dispose of none, some or all of their holdings. Opinion was being sought as to the fate of the scheme as some holdings were considered too small, at 50/60 acres, to make a living from and there were other attendant issues. There was a general opinion that the scheme was no longer running as it had been originally intended and was not providing the first footing into a career that had been the foremost objective. If the scheme were to continue a new strategy would be required to ensure that the scheme was viable and able to provide the opportunities for which it was conceived in the first place. There was concern expressed that once sold, the one off revenue would be a temporary fix but that it would be like "selling the family silver" and the scheme could never again be restored. There would be future news and updates on this topic.

## **13. Village Matters including Travellers Sites Consultation**

There was still a concern over speeding in Winnal and adherence to speed limits. There could be a possibility to explore the idea of the opportunity for volunteers to go on a course to learn how to use a speed gun system, "doing our own policing".

There may be a requirement for sandbag "top ups" going forward. There are stocks at Cllr Sally Lawrence's property and at the allotments at present.

The door on the notice board outside the Hall was difficult to open. Cllr Williams would look at this.

There would be a Harvest Festival at Allensmore Church on the 16<sup>th</sup> October at 7.00pm. The new Rector for the Benefice, Rev. Hilary Morgan, would be installed at a service on 30<sup>th</sup> October. The venue of this would be confirmed.

The Herefordshire Council consultation on Traveller's Sites was discussed and it was resolved that individuals would be left to make their own comments by filling in the questionnaire, provided by the Council, or writing in.

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

All usual items, sandbag stocks plus budget and precept request, elections and May 2015 Meeting.

#### **15. Setting of dates of future meetings**

The next Meeting will be held on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2014, at the Allensmore Village Hall at 8.00pm.

The Meeting closed at 9.15pm

Allensmore Parish Council Meeting

25<sup>th</sup> September 2014

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

Dated: - 20<sup>th</sup> November 2014

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)