

Minutes of Allensmore Parish Council Meeting held on 28th July 2016 at 8.00pm at Allensmore Village Hall

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

In attendance: Mrs A Wright (Clerk), Ward Councillor Jon Johnson, and 4 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 S Williams and the Footpath Officer. Cllr D Cooke was not present.

3. Declarations of Interest

There was one declarations of interest. This was from Cllr Cramp who mentioned that he was a Director of Data Orchard, providing Neighbourhood Planning advice.

4. Open Session

During the Open Session the planning application for broiler houses, to be located in the parish, was noted as having been previously withdrawn. An application for an Environmental Permit for the Unit had been advised. Concern was expressed regarding possible pollution of water courses as some local residents did not have access to mains supplied water. Previously the Parish Council had expressed the concerns, as raised, regarding the application and it was commented that consideration would be given again should an application be presented.

5. Brief Verbal Reports:

5.1 **Local Policing Team.** Bulletin Updates had been circulated.

5.2 **Footpath Officer:** Not present. The Foot paths Contractor updated the meeting regarding the earmarked projects re gate fitting. There had been some issues with the supply of materials and these had been ordered before the decision came through from Balfour Beatty to stop supplying gates and hardware items. Some components had been supplied and some had been installed. To complete the assigned project work, a further gate was required. This was discussed and the Clerk would order the required

items, cost circa £150.00, which would be paid for by Allensmore PC via a grant funding reduction.

5.3 Lengthsman Co-ordinator

Cllr Lawrence advised the meeting that trimming and drain cleaning was in progress and with ditching projects to come.

5.4 Ward Councillor

Ward Cllr Jon Johnson updated the meeting with his report and said that things had been "eerily quiet" as Westminster deliberated current matters and there was a query over possible changes at local level. Herefordshire Council was still budgeting as based on the proposals of the last governmental line up. He said that the next few months at local level would be "interesting". The Southern Link Road planning application had been passed. Requests made to the Secretary of State for a call in of the application had been declined. There was now a six week period where a Judicial Review could be instigated but no action on this had been confirmed to date. Nothing will now happen for around twelve months but then work on the road will start happening.

Other things happening included the University for Hereford being looked at, and also "on street" parking charges. The Asda Petrol Station was going ahead and would be open for trading in November.

6. To approve minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 26th May 2016.

Resolved: - The Minutes of the Meetings, Annual Parish and Annual Statutory held on 26th May 2016, were approved by the Council and then signed by the Chairman

7. Clerk Update and Correspondence

The Clerk updated the Meeting regarding the correspondence received including the external audit process and the introduction of a new Sandbag Policy. There could be an application made for empty sand bags which would then need to be filled by residents when required. There had been a change in approach as many bags had been ordered across the county in the past, remained unused and then rotted away. It was resolved that an application should be made for a supply of empty bags. The form was duly completed and would be sent to Balfour Beatty.

8. Neighbourhood Plan – to decide on next steps

Cllr Cramp had produced a draft leaflet for consideration by the parish. The purpose was to outline what was involved in producing a plan and would be asking for volunteers to become part of the process as they would have a significant role to play. The leaflet would require some adaption and would incorporate a mechanism for people to respond. There was a comment that many people do not use the internet. The

leaflets would be hard copies and the Parish Councillors would co-ordinate the distribution of these.

There had been correspondence received regarding a call for sites, suitable for house building, in the area. Coverage of this would form part of the preparation for a Neighbourhood Plan. It was commented that some areas may look suitable on a map but local knowledge would advise differently. Strategic sites would be identified and also areas where no building was desirable. The areas comprising of Allensmore, Cobhall Common and Winnal were currently set to receive a minimum growth of 32 houses, between them, during the period of the Core Strategy from 2011 to 2031. The Parish Council would put through what was felt to be appropriate and would draw on local knowledge to do this. There were not felt to be a great amount of sites anyway. As regards Poplar Road, one side of this had been included in the Clehonger Neighbourhood Plan area. The Ward Cllr would find out if this was an issue regarding housing numbers as ones built there already would be taken off Clehonger's total commitment.

9. Finance

(9.1) **Resolved:** The following list of payments were approved, prop by Cllr Cramp and sec Cllr Watkinson:

Mrs A Wright (salary £353.24, mileage £9.45, postage £2.06)	£364.75
Tax due on salary payment (Payable to The Post Office)	£88.40
Terry Griffiths (Lengthsman)	£452.40
Total	£905.55

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

(9.3) to approve revised **Financial Regulations 2016**

The Financial Regulations had been circulated and considered by the Parish Council. They were approved by the Parish Council. Proposed by Cllr Cramp and seconded by Cllr Watkinson

(9.4) to approve **Transparency Code**

The Transparency Code had been circulated and considered by the Parish Council. The Code was approved by the Parish Council. Proposed by Cllr Watkinson and seconded by Cllr Cramp

(9.5) to approve **Complaints Procedure Policy**

The Complaints Procedure Policy had been circulated and considered by the Parish Council. The Policy was approved by the Parish Council. Proposed by Cllr Cramp and seconded by Cllr Watkinson.

10. Planning

There had been no further applications received.

11. To discuss further developments regarding broadband provision

The meeting heard an update on the position regarding local broad band. Cllr Cramp explained that Allpay had now ceased provision of broadband in the area and that most local people had now sorted out an alternative option. BT had supplied a revised quotation for a community plan, £26,000.00. Matters were being checked with BT as proposals for upgrades as planned may change the proposal. Once the final cost of this was known the affected people could be advised and a consensus of opinion be obtained. 4G was advised to be working "pretty well" and the fibre option may still mean not particularly fast speeds. There was a wish to get a definite answer on the situation and the routes were being looked at to get power to the new cabinet. There was a forum in place for comments and a resident, Nick, was thanked for setting this up. Cllr Cramp would send out updates when further information was made available. It was advised that O2 were upgrading the Clehonger area to 4G that week.

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

All was quiet at the present. 100 empty sand bags would be ordered from Balfour Beatty under the new scheme arrangements.

13. Village Matters

There was a grant available for works to the church spire, and identified works, following the Quinquennial Inspection.

Allpay would be coming to collect their broadband equipment from the church.

14. Items for next Agenda

All usual items and Neighbourhood Plan update.

15. Confirmation of date of next Meeting

The next Meetings, Annual Parish and Statutory will be held on Thursday 22nd September 2016, at the Allensmore Village Hall from 8.00pm.

The Meeting closed at 9.02pm

Allensmore Parish Council Meeting

28th July 2016

Signedas a true record by Councillor (Chairman)

Dated: - 22nd September 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