

Minutes of Allensmore Parish Council Meeting held on 16th September 2021 at the Allensmore Village Hall from 7.30pm

In attendance: Cllrs J Evans, J Lawrence (from 7.35 pm), T Cramp (Chair), S Williams, Y Chapman and Cllr C Watkinson (Vice Chair) plus Mrs A Wright (Clerk), Ward Cllr Christy Bolderson and seven members of the public.

1. Open Session

A question was brought forward, from the floor, by a local resident who showed the council a riparian rights map that was believed to date from the 1950's. The map showed properties on Cobhall Common with a key annotating the riparian responsibilities for each property. There was a discussion between the resident and the Chair and the resident asked the parish council to make note of the concerns about the potential for there to be localised flooding of his property, which he alleged may be exacerbated as a consequence of adjacent building works. The riparian ownership was stated to be a generic principle with landowners being responsible for maintaining their watercourses. It was agreed that the parish council would flag up the concerns with the Planning Department at Herefordshire Council. The Ward Cllr advised that she was seeking clarification regarding the pipe arrangements and the conditions of discharge pertaining to the original application for the construction site. The resident maintained that the Council should be responsible for the upkeep of what they had undertaken in the past and he did not feel that this responsibility should be passed to the landowners. The issue of "big" pipes flowing into "smaller" ones was also mentioned in regard to capacity. The resident believed that there should be a "moratorium of no houses to be built in an area prone to flooding". It was stated that the council should maintain what systems were already there and keep them working as well as they can.

The Open Session closed at 7.50 pm.

2. Introduction and welcome by the Chairman

The Chair of the Parish Council, Cllr Tony Cramp, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

3. Apologies for Absence

There were apologies received from Cllr S Lawrence.

4. Declarations of Interest

There was a declaration of interest, from Cllr J Evans, in relation to any discussion regarding planning for Cobhall Lane.

5. Brief Verbal Reports:

5.3 Ward Councillor:

Ward Cllr Christy Bolderson was present at the meeting. She had previously circulated her report and update. A budget consultation was underway and there would be a contribution of more funding for the Lengthsman Scheme. The Police were promoting the Neighbourhood Matters System. Alerts were available via the system regarding road closures etc. Covid 19 levels were advised as being "quite high" with reports of 300 plus infections per 100,000 population being recorded.

6. To approve Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 22nd July 2021.

Resolved: - The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting, held on 22nd July 2021, were approved by the Council

7. To receive any correspondence and Information Update

The Clerk updated the Meeting regarding correspondence received. This included:

Herefordshire Council

- Parish Council Summit 14 September 2021
- Information for budget consultation with parish councils South and West area
- Democratic Services Officers – job opportunities
- Talk Community Newsletter 20 August 2021
- Leaders Newsletter - August 21
- Talk Community Newsletter 30 July 2021
- Launch of the new Neighbourhood matters initiative
- Parish Council Summit June 21 - Summary of workshop notes
- Talk Community Heat wave Update 20 July 2021
- 5 year Housing Land Supply
- Bus survey
- Talk Community Newsletter 16 July 2021
- Property Flood Resilience (PFR) Recovery Support Scheme 2020

Also:

From Sue Furnival JP

Recruitment to the Magistracy – information

Balfour Beatty

James Howells, the Locality Steward, had circulated his reports.

West Mercia Police

Bulletins had been circulated.

Also – from Police Commissioner - Safer West Mercia Plan

It was noted that the 5 year planning land supply was being exceeded, at the time of the meeting.

8. Finance

(8.1) **Resolved:** The following list of payments were approved, prop by Cllr S Williams and sec Cllr T Cramp:

Mrs A Wright (salary paid in accordance with contract)	
Tax due on salary payment (Payable to HMRC only)	£101.20
Groundwork UK Ltd (NDP Grant repayment)	£630.70
T Griffiths (Lengthsman – drainage grant works)	£1550.40

(8.2) **Resolved:** The bank balance was noted at £9430.59.

9. Planning

Planning applications had been received for consideration of comments:

APPLICATION NO & SITE ADDRESS: Planning Consultation - 213281 - Murrayfield, Allensmore, Hereford, Herefordshire HR2 9BN

DESCRIPTION: Proposed repositioned access.

GRID REF: OS 345443, 235613

APPLICATION TYPE: Full Householder

The application 213281 – for Murrayfield was discussed. The application had repositioned access arrangements proposed so as not to disturb an existing pipe. A 9 inch pipe was commented as being “desirable”. There may be an opportunity to arrange a larger pipe in the area of the Cobhall Common bus shelter to the new driveway. Cllrs Evans and Cramp would speak with the householder. Cllr Cramp would send comments for submission but there were “no objections”.

In regard to:

APPLICATION NO & SITE ADDRESS: Planning Re-consultation - 212344 - High Bank, Clehonger, Hereford, Herefordshire HR2 9TQ

DESCRIPTION: Proposed change of use from agricultural land to mixed use and erection of small portal frame unit for general storage and for maintenance of land.

GRID REF: OS 344832, 237823

APPLICATION TYPE: Planning Permission (Amended and Additional)

The Parish Council commented:

“Whilst APC acknowledges that the revised proposal is slightly better, we continue to object and our response remains as before:

Allensmore PC objects to the proposal which we believe to be inappropriate due to its size, location and finish. We believe such a building would have a detrimental impact on the neighbouring properties and the immediate local environment.

We are also concerned by consent being given for "mixed use" without being clear (to us at least) what this could entail. Any such permission given should limit the activities to those appropriate to a greenfield site adjacent to residential housing.”

APPLICATION NO & SITE ADDRESS: Planning Re-consultation - 210309 - Land at Pool Farm, Allensmore, Hereford, Herefordshire HR2 9AX

DESCRIPTION: Proposed log cabin for tourism, with associated car parking and access. Works to include demolition of storage barns

GRID REF: OS 344880, 234632

APPLICATION TYPE: Planning Permission (Amended)

The Parish Council resolved that there were no objections to the proposals in re-consultation number 210309.

10. Neighbourhood Plan tracking

Cllr Y Chapman updated regarding the plan. This had been adopted in May 2021. During the consultation period residents had raised questions and these now formed an appendix to the plan. It was agreed that the plan would be tracked in relation to the issues a couple of times a year. The status of NDP's had been queried with the MP by a previous member of the Steering Group. It had been said that the government were committed to retaining NDP's as part of the planning policy revision. The plan should have full material weight in consideration of planning applications, when the land supply criteria were being met. Cllr Chapman gave an update on the working group who were looking at traffic accident reduction on the A465. The group had previously made contact with Kilpeck Parish Council and this would be revisited. The purpose was to try to reduce the risk of accidents and to try to improve the experience of using other roads around the parish. A footpath or cycleway on the A465 had been moved to the “back burner” at present. The overarching ambition of the PC to protect the village hall and the church in a supporting role, not as the responsible body, was also noted.

The Church Porch conservation had moved on to the faculty stage. Plans for the proposed work were on show in the church. If there were no objections then the faculty could proceed and tenders to carry out the work could be obtained by the architect. The village hall toilets were being redecorated.

The History Group had experienced a delay in restarting due to Covid 19.

There had been no official litter pick since before the start of the pandemic but individual residents were carrying out picking locally.

In regard to local security matters, there had been intruders disturbed around some local farms recently.

11. Drainage and related matters – update on works and grants and including riparian responsibilities.

There were a couple of outstanding works on the grant list. Cllr J Lawrence would follow these up with the Lengthsman. Balfour Beatty had carried out some work at Alma Corner. The culvert under the road there needed clearing still. Cllr J Lawrence would send details about this to the Ward Cllr. The Ward Cllr would review the works responsibility at Herefordshire Council level.

12. Village Matters (brief action points and including footpaths)

The Footpath Officer (Cllr Williams) advised that the 3 gates for paths AN25 and AN26 to make the loop walk more accessible were still not in stock. The price for these would be determined once they had come into stock. The question was asked about the reasonableness of a partial offset of costs if say, replacing a stile with a gate but Balfour Beatty support like for like only. The AN 12 bridge, the Lengthsman had the materials and was waiting for the crop to be off the field before installing this.

13. Items for next Agenda

All the usual items would be on the Agenda. NDP Tracking in January 2022

14. Confirmation of date of next Meeting

The next Meeting of the Parish Council would be held on 18th November 2021 at the Village Hall.

Due to the confidential nature of the business of this agenda item, under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (3) it is proposed to put forward a motion to exclude members of the public during discussion of this agenda item (number 16 only)

15. To discuss implementation of NJC pay scale increment for Clerk from 1/04/21.

The members of the public and the Clerk left the hall. The Parish Council discussed the incremental progression, on the pay scale for the Clerk, and agreed that this should be paid from 1/04/21.

The Meeting closed at 8.40 pm

Allensmore Parish Council Meeting

16th September 2021

Signedas a true record by Councillor (Chairman)

Dated: - 18th November 2021

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