

Minutes of the Allensmore Parish Council Meeting held on 29th September 2022, at the Allensmore Village Hall, from 7.30pm

In attendance: Cllrs T Cramp (in the Chair), J Lawrence, Y Chapman, J Evans and S Williams plus Mrs A Wright (Clerk), Ward Cllr Christy Bolderson and two members of the public.

1. Introduction and welcome by the Chair

Cllr Tony Cramp (Chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Chair advised of the sad death of Cllr Sally Lawrence's son, Fred. The Clerk would send a message of condolence from the parish council.

2. Apologies for Absence

There were apologies received from Cllrs C Watkinson and S Lawrence.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Open Session

No topics were raised.

5. Brief Verbal Reports:

5.1 West Mercia Police

Bulletins had been circulated.

5.2 Lengthsman Co-ordinator

Cllr Jeremy Lawrence updated regarding the Lengthsman works.

5.3 Ward Councillor:

Ward Cllr Christy Bolderson explained about the recent "disappointing and upsetting" reports about the children's services department of Herefordshire Council. A ward councillor report would follow. The service had a newly appointed head but may still be taken out of local authority control if improvements were not forthcoming. All parish councils in the ward were working on road safety issues but there was no-one in Herefordshire Council to support with this at present. All available resources were being focused onto the childcare services. There were reported to be "difficulties across all levels of the council at present."

The Gigabit broadband was up for public review. Businesses and residents would be asked to give evidence as to the broadband situation being experienced. Link into the consultation would be in the report and would be open to 5/10/22.

The "Orange Button" Community Scheme for suicide support was up and running and people could register their interest to be become volunteers. The aim would be to offer support and signposting.

5.4 Balfour Beatty (Locality Steward)

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

5.5 Footpath Officer

Cllr Williams updated regarding the footpaths. Footpath AN12 would have the bridge installed imminently. The Lengthsman was completing a field work job near to the Allensmore Church and would then move onto drains and bridges.

6. To approve Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 21st July 2022.

It was resolved that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting, held on 21st July 2022, 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

Talk Community bulletins

Open Space Resident Survey and Open Space Assessment Audit

External Audit

The parish council agreed that the external audit provision should remain with PKF Littlejohn, going forward.

8. Neighbourhood Development Plan and Local Area Plan Consultation comments (as applicable)

The Open Space Resident Survey and Open Space Assessment Audit was, at the time of the meeting, live and Cllr Chapman would check this with regard to any parish council feedback.

9. Finance

(9.1) **Resolved:** The following list of payments were approved:

Mrs A Wright (salary paid in accordance with contract)

Tax due on salary payment (Payable to HMRC only)	£109.20
Wyeside Group Parish Council (VAT refund paid to APC, by HMRC, in error)	£383.18

(9.2) **Resolved:** The bank balance was noted at £9479.45.

(9.3) **Resolved:** The adoption of the revised Standing Orders (April 2022) was confirmed by the parish council.

10. Planning

No further Planning applications had been received for consideration of comments. Interim comments had been submitted.

11. Update on parish drainage, pipe work and any flooding issues

The awaited completion of the pipe work as identified, near "Montrose", and queried with Cllr John Harrington, Cabinet Member for Highways and Infrastructure, had been confirmed, by him, as being on schedule to be carried out. This followed requests and representations by the parish council to achieve completion, as previously outlined by Balfour Beatty.

12. Speeding and road safety – update

This was updated by Cllr Chapman. The parishes involved in the highway safety initiative would be meeting up again following their September Meetings. The interaction would include consultation with Balfour Beatty regarding the way forward.

13. Broadband – update

Cllr Cramp updated the meeting regarding the broadband position. The community scheme would not be proceeding as the tender process had not received any quotes from the possible suppliers. This was due to capacity issues. The Government Gigabit project was now where people were looking for resolution and the approval of digital household grants were pending. 4G was set up and most people had use of this already.

14. Items for next Agenda

All the usual items would be on the Agenda in November 2022. The agenda would include precept request and budget for 2023 - 2024.

16. Confirmation of date of next Meeting

The next Meeting of the Parish Council was confirmed as 17th November 2022 from 7.45 pm at the Village Hall.

The Meeting closed at 8.00 pm

Allensmore Parish Council Meeting

29th September 2022

Signedas a true record by Councillor (Chairman)

Dated: - 17 November 2022

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