

ALLENSMORE PARISH MEETING

Minutes of the parish meeting held on 23rd May 2013

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

Members of the public: Mrs. Dianna Tricklebank, Mrs. Carol Williams, Ms. Janet Smith.

Apologies received from: None.

Police Briefing - given by Fiona Witcher

Crime figures were circulated, 16 reported crimes, 1 house break in, 9 thefts, 1 vehicle stolen with the remainder being shed break-ins and such. Peterchurch will be staying open. Allensmore will be covered by Hereford Rural South - with 3 CSO and 1 Police Officer assigned. There will be an 'Open Day' at Hereford Police Station shortly.

The Transport Police are still active in their response to the problems with attempts to block the local railway line.

Allensmore Afternoon Club

Despite falling membership, now only 17 members, Allensmore Afternoon Club have enjoyed a varied and interesting programme over the past year. Our programme began last September with the AGM followed by bingo and afternoon tea. In October Lucy Jones came to talk to us about Inner Quest Therapies and demonstrated massage techniques. A local community support officer visited us in November, giving very useful and practical advice about bogus callers. We had our anniversary lunch at Castlefields in November. Husbands and partners were also invited to this and we enjoyed a delicious lunch together. At our Christmas buffet, we were treated to an Old Time Musical afternoon and were joined by a few members from the Sunshine Club, Kingstone. In February, we invited Shirley Coates to entertain us with her stories about her career as a singer on board cruise liners. We have just enjoyed an outing to Pengethley Garden Centre and have a coach trip planned for June to Webbs of Wychbold. Our programme finishes off in July with a talk by the Little Princess Charity and finally our traditional Strawberry tea on 18th July. Contact details: Michele Byrne- 01981 251650.

Allensmore W.I.

Our Allensmore WI has 28 members and we meet every month on the second Thursday evening at 7.30pm at Pateshall Hall. The meeting usually finishes about 9.30pm. Since the last parish meeting we have visited the RHS Centre at Pershore College to see the National Penstemon Collection, had to give way to the British summer and abandon our usual BBQ for a delicious meal inside the Farmhouse at Thruxton and of course got together for our traditional Christmas Dinner. As with last year the 2013 programme is proving to be just as interesting and diverse. We have been on a "Trip to Antarctica", learnt and practised some Tai Chi, and been reminded of the benefits of taking an Advanced Driving Course. Once again we had two teams entered for the WI Quiz and I am pleased to report that we are improving! This year trips include visits to St. Fagan's National History Museum, seven nights on holiday in Lake Garda and a trip to see the "Colours and Cultures" of Kent. Allensmore WI belongs to the "Satellite Group" which includes Eaton Bishop, Llanwarne, Moccas and Much Birch WIs. This year it has been our turn to entertain these groups and provide food and a speaker for the evening. Carole Dowding gave us an excellent "Brief History of Perfume" and told us about her career with Chanel. The Annual Council Meeting was held at the Courtyard in Hereford on April 29th and the Annual General Meeting will be held in Cardiff International Arena 1st June. This year the Resolution going forward to the AGM concerns the decline of high streets and town centres. There are competitions, walks, computer training and a wonderful chance to meet new friends and to get involved. The WI really is making a difference !

Young Farmers

The club leader advised that this is a group of teenagers aged 16 – 23 who meet every other Wednesday for talks and activities. 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. Membership has declined slightly now with 10 members, Josh the new Chairman is very energetic and likely to engender enthusiasm for taking this valuable group forward.

ST ANDREWS

St Andrews continues to be under the leadership of the Rev Clare Dyson from the Rectory at Kingstone. We have four services per month, two led by Clergy and two led by Lay People. At the recent AGM we saw a fall of 3 people on the electoral role which now stands at 21. The Church Councils Officers are as per last year were Rev Clare Dyson Chair, Mrs C Williams Vice Chair, Mr E Thomson Treasurer, Miss D Harthill Secretary and Mrs J Smith with Mr S Williams Churchwardens. The Church is kept looking tidy by volunteer cleaners and churchyard mowers on a rota basis. Our Parish Share is now just over £7500 and when you factor in insurance and heating etc the yearly running costs are a fraction under £11000, a figure that up to now we have always managed to pay. Our fundraising efforts this year included some Ramble & Bbqs, Whist drives, The 100 Club and a first for St Andrews was the Christmas Lunch. This turned out to be a very successful event raising over £1000. We are always indebted to those who help and support these events to keep St Andrews open. Our Bell ringers practice every other week and ring for weddings and special services throughout the Church year. We have had two new learners join us recently who are ringing with ever more confidence and we hope to ring a Quarter Peal very soon with as many of the local band as we can and also be the first to complete a Full Peal at St Andrews, watch or listen to this space. We hope to have St Andrews as part of Allensmore for many generations to come.

Pateshall Hall

Pateshall Hall has had another busy year. Regular users include the WI, the Afternoon Club, YFC, Ballet, Keep Fit and Monthly Whist Drives held by the Cobhall Clangers. We are ever grateful to our secretary Mrs Di Tricklebank who keeps the hall running smoothly and Mrs Janet Smith for keeping the accounts in good order.

Pateshall Hall continues to be in a good state of repair and decor something which we strive hard to maintain. We are continually reviewing the running costs of the hall and to that end we hope to attend a seminar at Goodrich Village Hall set up to address these issues, we look forward to meeting other committees to share and exchange our experiences. Our thanks go to those using and supporting this valuable facility and to our continued presence in Allensmore.

Allensmore Morris Men

After a short break have re-formed and are happy to continue and offer their services free of charge to village events. New members are needed to join in 'practice' on Monday evenings from 7.30pm.

Police

The Parish Council have a good relationship with our local Community Support Officers. Either Fiona Witcher or one of her colleagues attend council meetings and welcome feedback from members regarding local policing issues.

Footpaths

We have an unpaid Footpaths Officer: Lynda Freeman Allensmore is part of 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. Various paths were cleared and strimmed around stiles and gates.

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 many planning applications this year and although a few were returned for changes, most were accepted by Hereford Council planning officers.

Communication

We are progressing well with the Allensmore Parish Website.

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

Chairman's Report

Once again a busy year for the Parish Council.

Planning

We had twenty applications to consider, ranging from hedge removal to barn conversions, of which two required a site visit by the planning subcommittee.

Finance

The precept was raised to £2000 to cover an increase in the Clerk's salary and to build up a working cash reserve. Most years we have requests from charities both local and national, this year we have supported the Dore Community Transport £50 and Citizens Advice Bureau £40.

Footpaths

Once again we are in the P3 Scheme.

Footpaths Officer

After Ruth's stepping down one year ago the position was advertised and after interviewing, the post was awarded to Lynda Freeman who has carried out the scheme work for the past twelve months ,but due to an increase in her workload she has decided to resign, so at this meeting the position is vacant but hopefully will be filled in the following meeting.

Lengthsman

The weather has been a big concern in the village with the subsequent flooding resulting from the poor state of the drains and ditches. This has led to the council joining the Lengthsman Scheme with a grant of £1,716. A Contractor, Terry Griffiths has been appointed and he will use the money for the maintenance of drains, culverts and ditches and also verge trimming for visibility – A full report in the following meeting.

Council

The Council is at present one member short due to the recent resignation of Steve Mumford. This position was advertised for a statutory period, since there were no responses, the council can now opt on a new member and this also will be covered in the following meeting.

There have been many Herefordshire Council meetings and consultations throughout the year and every effort is made to attend and report on these events.

Annual Parish Meeting

23rd May 2013

Signedas a true record by Councillor Jeremy Lawrence (Chairman).

Dated 19th September 2013

ALLENSMORE PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING

Minutes of the Parish Council Annual meeting held on 23rd May 2013

Council members present: Mr. Jeremy Lawrence (Chair), Mr. Steve Williams, Mr. Derek 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
None

2.0 Elections
Proposed by Steve Williams and seconded by Derek C and agreed by all members.
Chairman: Mr. Jeremy Lawrence.
Proposed by Steve Williams and seconded by Sally Lawrence and agreed by all members.
Vice Chairman: Mr Tony Cramp.

3.0 Planning Committee
It was agreed that the Planning Committee would comprise of:
Mr. W.J. Lawrence, Mr. S. Williams, Mr. J. Lawrence and Mr. Tony Cramp.
Proposed by Sally Lawrence and seconded by Mr Derek Cooke.

4.0 Finance
It was agreed that any two signatories between the Chairman (Mr. Jeremy Lawrence), Vice-Chairman (Mr. Tony Cramp) and Mr. Steve Williams would sign cheques on behalf of the Parish Council.

Mr. Trevor Edwards has confirmed that he is happy to continue as our internal auditor and has approved the income and expenditure record which has been inspected and approved by the Council.

Grant Thornton is the appointed Auditors.

5.0 Other items for consideration
It was agreed that the District Councillor Mr James Knipe should be invited to attend meetings.

Allensmore Parish Council Annual Meeting

23rd May 2013

6.0 Planning

- a) The following applications have been passed by Herefordshire Council;

The following Applications have been passed by Herefordshire Council:

Walnut Tree Barn, Lower Mawfield Farm, HR2 9BQ. – Application No 130160/V

Certificate of Lawful Use or Development confirming that the installation of roof lights and a new doorway in this detached garage do not constitute works to an outbuilding requiring planning permission.

Village Farm, Allensmore, HR2 9AF- 130716/FH

The erection of a two storey rear extension, replace part of a one storey extension and replace and enlarge a conservatory with a sun room.

The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of three years from the date of this permission.

- b) The following application was refused by Herefordshire Council;

- c) The following applications have been reviewed;

Village Farm, Allensmore, HR2 9AF- 130716/FH

The erection of a two storey rear extension, replace part of a one storey extension and replace and enlarge a conservatory with a sun room.

The Parish Council has no objections to these proposals.

Arkstone Court Farm, Kingstone, HR2 9TR. – 130957/F

Portal framed biomass boiler building for heating 4no. new chicken sheds.

The Parish Council has no objections to this application.

7.0 Finance to consider

- a) 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 2013 was reviewed, approved and signed.
- b) P3 Grant of £570 for 2013/14 has been confirmed, but not as yet received.
- c) Lengthsman Scheme Grant of £1716 for 2013/14 has been confirmed, but not received.
- d) Payments to be considered for authorisation:

AON Insurance renewal	£ 326.16
Hall hire fee	£ 30.00
Clerks Salary April/May	£ 166.66

8.0 Parish Councillors Report.

- Resignation of the Footpaths Officer due to other commitments. Debbie Mumford has now accepted the role and we welcome her to the team.
- An update on our successful inclusion in to the Lengthsman Scheme was given and Terry Griffiths the contractor outlined his initial findings and proposals. Shallow line drainage near to Bramley Cottage area on Cobhall Common which will need to be monitored and part of the follow-up workload. Hot spot ditches should be 1st focus now to prepare for the winter season. Some verges with obscured vision have been done as part of the initial.
- Cobhall Common ditches.
- Steve Mumford has resigned and his post has been advertised as required by law and as nobody came forward which gave us the option to we are have responded to
- Steve gave a brief over view of the Golden Valley Key Issues Meeting
Amey gave an update on their plans for the future. They are looking at a more cohesive approach aiming to link in P3, Lengthsman Scheme and local communities and also with a focus on input from landowners.

9.0 Mr. James Knipe (District Councillors Report).

A new leader of Herefordshire Council will be elected tomorrow.
Broadband 10m will be capitalised and written off
Budget Cuts - Fears that Libraries will be affected, so it would be better if some method could be found to keep them at least ticking over, as once they are gone they are lost.
Jim has raised a formal complaint against the Planners decision in relation to the ongoing issues surrounding the proposed Kingstone development.

10.0 Matters for the next meeting

Update on the Lengthsman's progress and planning of preparatory work for the coming season.

11.0 Date of the next meeting.

Thursday 22nd August 2013.

Allensmore Parish Council Annual Meeting

31st May 2012

Signedas a true record by Councillor Jeremy Lawrence (Chairman).

Dated 19th September 2013