

Minutes of Allensmore Parish Council Meeting held on 21st January 2021 online via Zoom Platform during the Covid 19 Pandemic from 7.30pm

Present on Zoom: Cllrs J Evans, S Lawrence (briefly then monitor failed), J Lawrence, T Cramp (Chair), S Williams, Y Chapman (co-opted) and Cllr C Watkinson

In attendance: Mrs A Wright (Clerk), Ward Cllr Christy Bolderson, and 4 members of the public.

1. Introduction and welcome by the Chairman

The Chair of the Parish Council, Cllr Tony Cramp, welcomed everyone to the online meeting. There was a brief disturbance when some people who had joined the zoom, as supposed members of the public, made some inappropriate sexual comments to the meeting. All of the parties, making such comments, were removed from the live meeting by the Clerk immediately.

2. Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Co-option of councillor

There was one candidate put forward for adoption. This was Mrs Yvonne Chapman. A resume was given and Yvonne was unanimously co-opted to the Parish Council. A warm welcome was extended to Cllr Chapman. Cllr Chapman and the Clerk would liaise regarding the completion of the required acceptance and declaration of registrable interest forms.

5. Open Session

No items were raised.

6. Brief Verbal Reports:

6.1 Local Policing Team: Bulletin updates had been circulated.

6.2 Lengthsman Co-ordinator: Cllr J Lawrence advised that the Lengthsman would be commencing the grant aided drainage works etc. during week commencing

25/01/21. The councillors had been out clearing some drains around the church area. The Lengthsman would be asked to look at some of the clogged up ditches in the area.

6.3 Ward Councillor:

Ward Cllr Christy Bolderson updated the Meeting about further full council matters. The Ward Cllr had sent through an update on 11/01/21. A new Chief Executive Officer for Herefordshire Council, Mr Paul Walker had been recruited. He was working in Harrow at the time of the meeting. The Transport Strategy recommendations from Cabinet would be taken to full council for their consideration on 12/02/21. There would be a 4.99% rise in the amount of council tax. The Waste and Recycling Consultation would close on 7/02/21. There would be central and local changes to waste recycling. The Ward Cllr recommended that people look at the survey.

The A465 and speeding issues had been discussed. Kilpeck Parish Council had asked John Harrington the Cabinet Member for Roads and others to look at speeding issues. It had been suggested that parishes along the A465 work together on the issues as this may lead to greater opportunities for funding success.

6.4 Locality Steward

The Locality Steward had kept members informed via bulletins.

6.5 Footpath Officer – The Footpath Officer Cllr Steve Williams advised that money was available for path works if required.

7. To approve Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19th November 2020.

Resolved: - The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting, held on 19th November 2020, were approved by the Council

8. Clerk Update and Correspondence

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

Herefordshire Council

- Census 2021 heroes and Recruitment Updated Information
- Weekly Covid Update 16/12/20
- Future of Mobility and waste consultation
- Weekly Covid update 10/12/20
- Weekly Covid update 06/01/21

9. Neighbourhood Plan – update on progression (as applicable)

The Allensmore Neighbourhood Plan was scheduled for referendum in May 2021. The council would keep an eye on any update bulletins for residents.

10. Finance

(10.1) **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)	£112.20

(10.2) **Resolved:** The bank balance was noted at £10629.30.

(10.3) To consider request for donation from Belmont Country Park Supporters

The request for support from the Belmont Country Park Supporters was considered and it was resolved to make a donation of £50.00. The Clerk would arrange for this to be sent to the co-ordinator.

11. Planning

The Murrayfield application would be determined via delegated powers by the Ward Cllr. It was noted that the existing drainage pipes had been cleaned out and were working well, as were the pipes local to the property.

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

There was a brief update on local issues. Issues of multiple flood events at Alma Cottage and the adjacent corner on the B4348 were noted. Cllr Williams described the situation with the local drains which were open and running, but not to capacity. There appeared to be a possible lack of local ditch clearance and maintenance. There was also a lack of fall in the land leading to pooling and silt back up. Local knowledge of the systems and issues would be communicated to the Locality Steward.

Zoom Session 1 ended at 8.09 pm. Zoom Session 2 commenced at 8.13 pm.

Cllr J Lawrence described the situation with silting up and drainage etc. in the vicinity of the cottage. After a discussion it was agreed that an on site meeting with the Locality Steward and members of the parish council would be arranged to enable a walk around and proper look at the issues that were potentially exacerbating the flooding around the cottage. This meeting would be arranged as soon as possible. Cllrs J Lawrence and S Williams would participate. Cllr J Lawrence would also circulate an explanatory map diagram to assist.

Cllr Evans had been working, with others, to clear local pipes around the Cobhall Common area and bus shelter. Many were now flowing freely but some others still had blockages. Thank you to Cllr Evans and those involved.

There were still issues of standing water at Goose Pool and water flowing around the rear of the bus shelter there. Cllr Cramp would chase up the landowner regarding the clearance of the drain at the rear of the bus shelter to assist with the drainage.

13. Village Matters including any update regarding broadband

In regard to speeding issues, the Chair had spoken with a representative of Kilpeck Parish Council regarding plans for further road furniture. The idea of working together with Kilpeck, and possibly also Much Dewchurch PC for the area around Locks Garage, regarding road and speeding would be explored. The Chair would lead on co-ordinating with Kilpeck etc.

The Chair advised that there was no change regarding broadband and that the service remained inadequate. It was hoped that Gigaclear would be able to deliver the hoped for results going forward.

14. Items for next Agenda

All the usual items would be on the Agenda plus flooding/drainage, Neighbourhood Plan and Working Group.

15. Confirmation of date of next Meeting

The next Meeting of the Parish Council would be held on 18th March 2021 with venue or Zoom to be confirmed.

The Meeting closed at 8.42 pm

Allensmore Parish Council Meeting

21st January 2021

Signedas a true record by Councillor (Chairman)

Dated: - 18th March 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