

Minutes of the Allensmore Parish Council Meeting held on 18th July 2024, at the Allensmore Village Hall, from 7.45pm

In attendance: Cllrs J Evans (in the Chair), J Lawrence, S Williams and C Watkinson plus Mrs A Wright (Clerk), and Ward Cllr Richard Thomas

1. Introduction and welcome by the Chair

Cllr John Evans (in the Chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending.

2. Co-option of councillor (2 current vacancies) and acceptance of office

No candidates were presented this time.

3. Apologies for Absence

There were apologies for absence received from Cllr T Cramp.

4. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

5. Open Session

There were no matters raised in the Open Session.

6. Brief Verbal Reports:

6.1 West Mercia Police

Bulletins had been circulated when received.

The parish council were advised that a shed at the church had been broken into and trimmers and fuel had been taken. These items had not been recovered to date.

Lengthsman Co-ordinator

The Lengthsman Co-ordinator advised that the lengthsman and public rights of way contract details were in progress or had been submitted.

6.2 Ward Councillor:

Ward Cllr Richard Thomas advised that there was to be a meeting held on the 21st July about the public rights of way. The contract with Balfour Beatty was "going" from 2026 and a new model for surveying, providing engineers and services was to be explored to replace them. The Locality Stewards were being taken back in house to Herefordshire

Council. The Herefordshire Council were looking at tenders from five companies and the idea would be that more work would be carried out by local contractors. Business was otherwise quiet at Herefordshire Council. The management board was changing. The parish summit had been successful and there had been a lot of complaints about not being able to get in contact with council officers and them not coming back regarding contact attempts. This was being taken up with the Chief Executive Officer.

6.4 Balfour Beatty (Locality Steward)

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

6.5 Footpath Officer

Cllr Williams advised that the reported issues at path AN24 had been sorted out. There were two defects on path AN25 and Cllr Williams said that he would let the landowner know about these. There was overgrowth of vegetation to be cleared. A timber footbridge at Blackhall Lane was in need of replacement. The price quoted had been £2500.00. The bridge at Goosepool had slats coming apart and Cllr Williams would again speak with the landowner where the bridge was located.

7. To approve Minutes of the Annual Parish and Annual Statutory Meetings held on 23rd May 2024.

Resolved: - The Minutes of the Annual Parish and Annual Statutory Council Meetings, held on 23rd May 2024, were approved by the Council

8. To receive any correspondence and Information Update

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

Herefordshire Council

Talk Community bulletins

Police Commissioner Questionnaire

The parish council decided not to complete the questionnaire this time as nothing had really altered from the previous submission.

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)	£127.00

(9.2) **Resolved:** The bank balance was noted at £11287.96. This amount included the ring-fenced amount of £379.00 being the pipe crowd funding project surplus.

(9.3) To approve the new Financial Regulations for 2024
The parish council resolved to adopt the new Financial Regulations 2024.

10. Planning

There was one new planning application for consideration of comments:

APPLICATION NO & SITE ADDRESS: Planning Consultation - 241699 - Briarwood Too, Allensmore, Hereford, Herefordshire HR2 9AD

DESCRIPTION: The proposals include taking down the existing conservatory and constructing a new single storey side extension.

GRID REF: OS 346340, 236365

APPLICATION TYPE: Full Householder

The parish council discussed the application 241699 and there were no objections.

Cllr Watkinson had sent the regular update on planning for the parish. There were no changes since the circulation. The Church Road planning had started.

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

The council heard that the Church Road job was pending subject to progress following a Winnal Common drainage visit.

12. To consider possible adaptations to the Cobhall Common bus shelter.

There was no further update on this matter. The item was shelved for the time being.

13. To consider verge cutting arrangements for wildflower preservation

The parish council would keep a look out for any overgrown splays and inform Balfour Beatty if there were any impairment to visibility, or blockages caused by overgrowth.

14. To review the Lengthsman Contract works, grant and update

The grant application for lengthsman and public rights of way grants were in progress. The Clerk would check if all was in order and for confirmation.

15. Items for next Agenda

All the usual items would be on the Agenda in September 2024, also on the agenda - co-option of councillor(s) and possible Cobhall Common bus shelter adaptations

16. Date of next Meeting

The next Meeting of the Parish Council was confirmed as 19th September 2024 from 7.45 pm at the Village Hall.

Future Meetings for 2024: November 21st

The Meeting closed at 8.29 pm

Allensmore Parish Council Meeting

18th July 2024

Signedas a true record by Councillor (Chairman)

Dated: - 19 September 2024

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