

Minutes from a meeting of the Parish Council, held in the village hall on Tuesday 5th November 2019 at 7pm

OPEN FORUM – Nothing to report

PRESENT – Chairman C Rabbette, Vice Chairman M Kibble, Cllrs A Dermont, P Morris, L Haycock, S Britten, N Jamieson and County Cllr A Hardman

1. **APOLOGIES** - None

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – None declared

3. **MINUTES** from the previous meeting were approved and signed.

4. **PROGRESS REPORTS**

a) Highway Matters

- Speeding / Speed Data – Cllr Dermont reported that data had been collected for a 3-month period between July and October, alarmingly showing a total of 26,000 vehicle movements travelling from Pershore alone with a significant number exceeding the speed limit. Full data collected can be obtained from the clerk. It will also be included with the Minutes on the website. It appeared that the VAS sign was now working efficiently and the clerk was asked to advise Swarco of this and to pass on our thanks
- Pool Close – During a spell of recent heavy rainfall, Pool Close experienced severe flooding in places. This was reported to WCC and was acted upon quickly. It has been identified that there are drainage works that will need to be undertaken. County Cllr Hardman agreed to take this up with WCC for further feedback and a plan of action. Since the flooding, extensive road markings were evident, suggesting that finally, the road would be re-surfaced. The clerk had been in contact with WCC regarding this and it has been agreed that re-surfacing of Pool Close before drainage works are complete was not practical. It is thought that Wick Road, however will be re-surfaced shortly

b) Footpaths/Rights of Way – It was reported that a local resident had very kindly cleared much of the overgrowth on Double Hedges. Thanks were officially recorded in the Minutes and the clerk would contact him personally to pass on thanks. A notice would be in the next edition of the LINK for a replacement Footpath Warden

c) Lengthsman – Cllr Jamieson had met with the LM and now had clearer understanding of his role and what is permitted and not permitted under our agreement / contract with WCC. He was satisfied with what works are carried out and would be meeting up with him regularly.

d) Planning -

- Fence at Orchard View, Manor Lane – This is still with Enforcement Officers at WDC and nothing further to report
- 19/0841 – Hollyoak Nursery – new agricultural building – awaiting decision by WDC
- 19/02138 – Land off Pershore Road, Great Comberton – prior notification of agricultural development – approved by WDC
- SWDP – Cllrs Rabbette and Jamieson will be attending an event in Worcester on 6th November. Cllr Rabbette did advise that the initial Option documentation released for consultation indicated that Little Comberton remains a Category 4 village because of the lack of amenities and that

development boundaries for Cat. 4 villages will be removed under the new review. It was agreed that a meeting be held to discuss any response the parish council would be making before the consultation end date of 16th December. There are a number of exhibition events throughout the county over the coming weeks and these should be promoted to residents.

- 19/02268 – The Old Rectory – erection of single storey extension – this application was received too late to be formally included on the agenda but would be included for discussion at the SWDP consultation response meeting on 3rd December

e) BHCG – Cllr Britten reported:

- Additional pitches for the Eckington Traveller Site
- Road Safety, Bredon Hill Villages – A suggestion that speed limit around Bredon Hill should be restricted to 40mph with all villages at 30mph
- 46 equine accidents had been reported between 2010 and 2019
- Next meeting 2nd April 2020

f) Ditches/ Water Courses:

- Gt Comberton Junction – Cllr Hardman advised that WCC are still waiting for parts to complete the work on the culvert
- Drainage at Crossroads – It was reported that during recent heavy rainfall the situation appeared very much improved but would continue to be monitored
- Pool Close Flooding – already covered under *Highway Matters*
- Orchard Drive – again, further works on drainage issues were identified at the junction with Pershore Road after the recent heavy rain. The clerk had been in contact with WCC who are investigating

It should be noted that despite WCC being placed under immense pressure as a result of the rain and subsequent flooding issues across the county, Little Comberton had been promptly visited by engineers and problem areas identified

- g) Phone box – The new signs for the top of the kiosk had been received and would be fitted as soon as possible. Cllr Rabbette reported that we are still trying to source a footpath / right of way map that we could display (Open Source map being used to prepare the footpath map)
- h) Trees / Tree Warden - A notice will be in the next edition of the LINK for a replacement Tree Warden. It was also brought to the parish council's attention that a lot of trees from the Manor House were causing problems with the village hall roof and overhanging the footway past the hall. The clerk would speak to the property owner to get this attended to
- (i) Bonfires – Following several complaints to the parish council over the summer regarding bonfires, it had been agreed that we should introduce a bonfire protocol in order to maintain harmony within the village. The purpose is to advise people complaining about bonfires that there is no specific legislation regarding the burning of bonfires and whilst not a parish council responsibility, we will intervene as a last resort if communication between the complainant and a single repetitive offender fails to resolve issues of genuine nuisance. In the first instance complainants will be signposted to Worcester Regulatory Services who have a responsibility to assist and have a toolkit of steps to help resolve issues. This had been circulated to all Cllrs for approval. The parish council were all in favour of adopting this Bonfire Protocol, proposed by Cllr Rabbette, seconded by Cllr Britten. The clerk would put this on the My Parish website
- (j) Dog Waste Bin – This is due to be fitted any day now

5. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT – nothing to report

6. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT – County Cllr Hardman apologised for his absence on previous meeting and reported:

- There is increased pressure on County Council Adult Social Care
- The number of children in care was finally starting to reduce
- The police will visit persistent speeding offenders if vehicles registration numbers are made known

7. FINANCE – Payments for approval / made since last meeting :

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|-------------------------|-----|--------|
| Clerks Salary | SO | 261.36 |
| Clerks Expenses | SO | 12.00 |
| Lengthsman (Aug/Sept)) | 693 | 288.00 |
| Phone Box Refurb | 694 | 390.00 |
| Dog Foulding Signs | 695 | 42.84 |
| Phone Box Signs | 696 | 120.00 |
| Clerks Salary | SO | 261.36 |
| Clerks Expenses | SO | 12.00 |
| Hall Hire | 697 | 13.00 |
| BHCG Subscription | 698 | 30.00 |
| Cheque cancelled | 699 | |
| Wreath | 700 | 20.00 |
| Donation | 701 | 30.00 |
| Grass Cutting M/ Garden | 702 | 125.00 |
| Grass Cutting Church | 703 | 125.00 |

a) Copies of the accounts had been presented to councillors

Account Balances:

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| Current A/c (after u/p cheques) | 5,479.71 |
| Deposit Account: | 4,924.20 |

8. HEALTH & SAFETY – Cllr Morris reported that there had been on going issues with fire alarms resulting in several visits by the fire safety company at an ever increasing cost to the Village Hall. One bill is currently being queried and another will hopefully be covered by insurance

9. CRIME:

- Neighbourhood Watch – The NW co-ordinator will be arranging a meeting for residents and also a WhatsApp Group as a way of getting information out to the village.

10. MATTERS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS / DISCUSSION:

- **Cllr Kibble** had advised that due to other commitments he would be stepping down as Vice Chairman of the Parish Council at the end of the year but that he would be staying on as a parish councillor
- **Cllr Morris** advised that the village hall committee are looking for a volunteer caretaker. It was agreed that this would be included in the LINK along with the requests for volunteer tree and footpath wardens
- **A46 Junctions** – Concerns were raised with regard the dangers trying to cross the A46 (Cheltenham Road), in particular when travelling from Broadway. This is not made any easier with the overgrown hedge on the right hand side of the junction. County Cllr Hardman suggested we write to Highways England to investigate.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 3rd December – SWDP / Planning Meeting & to review policies

Tuesday 14th January – Parish Council Meeting

MVAS Analysis for 18th July – 6th October 2019

- Total number of vehicles (from Pershore, one direction) = 26,740
- Monday – Friday average = 362 vehicles per day (one direction)
- Full 7 day week average = 336 vehicles per day (one direction)
- Morning peak traffic volume = 11am
- Afternoon peak traffic volume = 5pm
- Highest speeds are overnight and before 7am with very little daily variation
- Average speed of all vehicles = 33mph
- Average speed of top 15% (4,011 vehicles) = 40mph
- Approximately 67% of all vehicles are exceeding 30mph with very little daily variation; in other words only 33% are at 30mph or below
- Approx 33% @ ≤ 30 mph (8,824 vehicles)
- Approx 29% @ 31 – 35mph (7,755 vehicles)
- Approx 19% @ 36 – 40mph (5081 vehicles)
- Approx 11% @ 41 – 45mph (2,914 vehicles)
- Approx 7% @ 46 – 50mph (1,872 vehicles)
- Approx 1% @ > 50 mph (267 vehicles)
- So, approx 40% of all vehicles are above 35mph (35mph means a fine + 3 points)
- Fastest speed recorded was 65mph (21st September @ 9.30pm)
- A point to bear in mind; Swarco have just confirmed that each vehicle's recorded speed is the speed sensed when the MVAS was first triggered. It does not take into account that a driver may be slowing as he passes the sign.