

**The minutes of Knighton on Teme Parish Council Meeting  
held at 7pm on 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2022 at the Parish Rooms**

**Present:** Cllrs R Lear, R Bolton, J Ruffles, D Hubbard, E Mapp.

**In attendance:** Clerk, Mrs Karen Yates, Cllr D Chambers, Cllr D Godwin.

Mr D Hubbard chaired the meeting.

Welcome to Mrs Emma Mapp, a declaration of acceptance of office was signed.

**1 Apologies.** J Barnes.

**2 Register / Declarations of Interest.**

**Dispensations**

**Public Question Time**

**3 District/County Councillor's Report.**

Cllr Godwin updated us with council tax figures, an increase of 2.98% is expected. The Boundary Commission have carried out an electoral review, Lindridge Ward is proposed to gain Pensax but there are no other major changes. Cllr Godwin expressed his disappointment that no site visits were made during the review. Planning applications are down as is building work due to a lack of materials and supplies.

Cllr David Chambers had circulated his report to all members.

Members expressed their concerns regarding the workmanship of pothole repairs, Cllr Chambers advised that in general roads in the County are good compared to surrounding counties. S106 monies are often used for road re-surfacing with large developments, not something we will be able to utilise.

Eastham Bridge repairs are due following recent damage, concerns were raised about the design and workmanship of the bridge, Cllr Chambers advised the project was carried out correctly.

Lengthsman funding is being increased, further news is awaited.

**4 Minutes:** Minutes of extraordinary meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> February were approved.

**5 Safety along A456, Newnham Bridge.**

a VAS sign – J Ruffles reviewed 3 companies that local parishes have used for costs for similar equipment, costs have increased and are in the £3K region, with a budget of £2K this requires further thought.

Lengthsman agreement / risk assessment to be reviewed when VAS's in place.

b Installation of white village gates – awaiting date with Highways, Cllr Chambers to follow up.

**6 Planning**

a There were no planning applications

21/01397/OUT Station House, Newnham Bridge. Outline application for the erection of 3 self build dwellings. Demolition of existing greenhouses. Revised plans.

The Parish Council stand by their previous comments, we wish to see the development of the site however 3 houses on this plot is total overdevelopment. The site can in no way support drainage and effluent from 3 detached properties due to heavy clay soil and high water table. All properties in similar location rely on treatment systems and clean effluent to outfall to the river. The land cannot support soakaways.

We note objections from neighbours and support their comments.

b There were no determinations.

c Planning applications determined under delegated powers. None.

**7 Finance**

a Clerks salary March and expenses £60.12. Agreed.

b Review of bank mandate. It was agreed to hold the bank mandate until the new Clerk is in place.

The Clerk is still set up as information only, a letter was signed to be taken into the branch requesting the

McAfee payment approved at the last meeting to be paid via BACs.

This payment was reduced to £25.99, a cheaper option was found by not renewing as an existing customer.

c Photocopies October 2021 – March 2022 - £10.44. Agreed.

## 8 Highways

a Lengthsman Scheme. February a/c £288. Agreed. The side of the road verge between Upper Lowbourn and Field Farm to be looked at by the Lengthsman as a hole has appeared, he may be able to re-fill it in. The Lengthsman has cleared the kerbs from the bridge to the bus stop. He felt it was too dangerous to continue further due to the traffic. Cllr Bolton followed the sweeper towards Tenbury about 10 days ago and noticed the brush did not touch the kerb – this will be forwarded to Cllr Godwin.

b Cracked drain opposite Mill Lane. Work planned for 21<sup>st</sup> April. A dispute between Severn Trent and WCC about road closures has held up repairs, a 1 day order has been allowed for work to be done.

c Water leak at Bickley Lane/Tavern junction. Re-reported, being monitored.

d Drains to be jetted around The Talbot – two drains have been reported, the jetter is due.

Two drains require jetting outside The Forge and will be reported.

e Overgrown hedges in Jewkes Lane – landowner is still being pursued by Highways. The Chairman has tried to contact the landowner again with no success. As we are now in March, it was agreed to send our concerns to Cllr Chambers and to request that these are done urgently when nesting season ends.

f Notice board in Wyrebrook Orchard. The recent high winds have damaged this beyond repair. It was agreed to request funding support from Cllr Chambers and Godwin and pursue other potential sources when identified. Cllr Bolton has some materials that may be useful, Chairman to report back.

9 **Broadband issues in the parish.** The Chairman has requested from BT Openreach all addresses in the parish of 781... numbers attached to the exchange which will give a better idea of how many dwellings may need supporting. The funding is on hold due to the system being overwhelmed with applications but residents are encouraged to input their expressions of interest individually.

10 **Email addresses.** To be pursued in the new financial year. The Clerk has been contacted to set this up, they have been informed that when the new Clerk is in place we will get back to them.

11 **Vacancies for two Parish Councillors.** No applications received, one member can be co-opted. The recent vacancy is with Malvern until 15<sup>th</sup> March, after which we can co-opt.

12 **Election of Vice Chairman.** To be further discussed when a full council is in place.

13 **Vacancy for a Parish Clerk.** The advert is circulating with WorcsCALC, date left open and interested candidates to contact the Clerk for further information. The advert also to be placed locally.

14 **Spring litter pick** – 3<sup>rd</sup> April. Ideas to attract support welcome.

15 **Queen's Platinum Jubilee.** The Parish Rooms and Caravan Park are keen to hold celebrations, the Chair to talk to residents in Wyrebrook Orchard and Station Close to gauge interest, a party was suggested.

16 **Councillors' reports and items for future agenda.** Overgrown hedges along A456 to be looked at and reported back at the next meeting for action required.

17 **Date of next meeting:** 7pm on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2022 at the Parish Rooms.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

Signed ..... (Chairman) Date .....