

**The Minutes of Knighton on Teme Parish Council Meeting
held at 7pm on 11th July 2024 at the Parish Rooms**

Present: Cllrs D Hubbard, J Bradley, S Perry, Cllr Mrs J Spilsbury
Cllr J Bradley attended after the member of the public section of the meeting.

In attendance: Clerk, Ms Rachel Lambert

Members of the Public Present: Mr J Bradley

PC19 Receive Apologies for Absence

Cllr Mrs E Mapp, Cllr R Lear, Cllr Ms J Cornes

PC20 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Bradley had an interest in subject of a Planning Screening that would be discussed under planning.

PC21. Declarations Personal and Prejudicial Interest

None.

PC22. Receive Questions from the Public

The Chairman provided an overview of a planning screening application for a battery storage unit to be sited on farmland in Knighton on Teme; of which had been received by some residents within the Parish who lived near to the proposed site. This had created concerns and questions. The Chairman had asked for representation of this screening application from either representatives of the company that were asking for the Planning Screening or the landowner to provide more details during “Questions from the Public”. The Chairman stated that at this stage it was only a screening application via the Planning Department. The Parish Council could not make any representations at this stage. The Parish Council had been advised from Planning Services that any notifications received at this stage would be discounted.

Mr J Bradley attended the Members of the Public session on behalf of his father who at the time was unable to attend and provide details. Mr J Bradley read out a detailed statement as to the timescale of events that had occurred so far, from when his father had been approached by the company proposing to site the battery storage facility on the family farmland of which up to 4 acres would be earmarked within Knighton on Teme. The units would be similar to shipping containers and would be near to electricity pylon. The area is sheltered by trees.

The family of the farm would retain ownership of the land. They assure that no solar panel units would be installed.

Mr Bradley iterated that his father had been a good custodian of the farming community all his life and that to sustain a viable future this would secure the family business. Mr Bradley expressed that his father would welcome open discussions from the community of any concerns that they may have.

Questions from Councillors raised:

- Concerns with screening application – the impact of noise, risk of fire and health implications.

The Chairman thanked Mr J Bradley for attending the Members of the Public question time. Mr Bradley then left the meeting. After a short break, Mr Bradley was then asked to join the Parish Council Meeting as his role as Parish Councillor.

PC23. Minutes of the 9th May 2024 Meeting

The Minutes were adopted and signed by the Chairman.

PC24. District/County Councillor's Report.

No report received from District Councillor.

County Councillors report to be published on website.

PC25. Councillors

Cllr Mrs Spilsbury

- Open gardens were a success, with over 150 people attending, approximately £1000 raised on the day.
- Discussed a Grant Application on behalf of Community and Parish Council items – for example replacement noticeboards, bus shelters in particular for Wyrebrook Gardens and Station Close and grit bin in area that is not on winter gritting route.

PC26. Clerk

Clerk reminded the Council of the servicing of the two defibrillators. It was agreed to arrange a service of both items.

Clerk confirmed had begun online training of website and would continue over coming weeks.

Clerk explained of the CiLCA qualification for Clerks. If agreed by members of the council this could start in July 2025. The Clerk explained that costs if agreed could be co-shared with Knighton on Teme and Lindridge Parish Council.

Co-Option - the vacancy was advertised, there has been one applicant before the closing date and will be invited to co opt at the next meeting.

PC27. Planning

Applications received.

M/24/00639/LB – Gentle blast cleaning of oak frame. – Aston Bank Cottage, Knighton on Teme.

SUPPORTED COMMENTS SUBMITTED VIA PARISH COUNCIL

Determinations Received:

Prior notification of construction of building for agricultural purposes to include the storage of agricultural machinery and vehicles. Land at OS 6180 6950, Aston Bank.

APPROVAL by Malvern Hills District Council Planning Department

M/23/01629/HP, Construction of two storey extension, following demolition of shed, laundry, wc and dog kennels. Park Green, Bickley, WR15 8LU

APPROVAL by Malvern Hills District Council Planning Department

Planning applications determined under delegated powers – NONE

PC28. Finance - Agree, check and minute accounts – Cllrs Hubbard and Barnes agreed, checked and signed accounts.

Accounts paid since last meeting

a)	Parish Clerk, Salary – May & June 2024	£ 805.12
b)	HMRC – PAYE Payments for Month 1, 2, 3	£ 131.20
c)	Parish Lengthsman – April & May 2024	£ 576.00

Accounts Unpaid

d)	Parish Clerk, Expenses for May & June 2024	£ 29.00
e)	Worcestershire CALC – Clerk Training	£ 63.00
f)	Knighton on Teme Parish Rooms – Room Hire	£ 100.00

PC28a. Bank Reconciliation Statement –

The council agreed the bank statement and signed by the Chairman.

PC29. Discuss Highways Items

- The gutters had been cleared along the A456 and were much improved.
- Verges had been cut from Church Hill to the junction with the A443.
- Report a drain near to Tavern Lane entrance – soapy water is emanating from it even during dry periods of weather. Clerk to action.
- Clerk had brought to the attention of the Council information of new flood awareness signs for Newnham Bridge. The signs would be funded via Malvern Hills District Council. Several Parishes within the area had been written to on behalf of Tenbury Area Partnership group. It was agreed to write and agree to the signage and to clarify at no cost to the Parish Council. Clerk to action.

PC30. Matters arising from last meeting

- The Chairman proposed the following donations, the council agreed: a) Temespan _ £150.00 b) Parish Rooms for childrens events £150.00 c) Tenbury Young Farmers £150.00 d) Knighton on Teme Cricket Club £150.00
- The Chairman advised of a litter pick for 27th October 2024.
- The Clerk advised that NALC had issued revised Financial Regulations. A Working Party to be established to look and amend current Financial Regulations.

PC31. Correspondence for Information –

- a) Resignation received and reply to Ms L Quinn
- b) Confirmation received from PKF Littlejohn of submitted end of year audit
- c) Email received and reply to residents of Knighton on Teme – Church Lane access
- d) VAT Refund Claim
- e) Email received in connection to flood awareness signage for the Parish
- f) Report of overgrown vegetation from top of Church Lane to A443
- g) Email to Milson and Neen Sollars Parish Council re enquiry to poor road surface condition
- h) Email from Planning – explanation of screening application of M/24/00228/SCR

PC32. Items for Next Agenda

- Co-Option

PC33. Date of next meeting:

The next meeting will be on Thursday 12th September 2024 at Parish Rooms at 7pm, Knighton on Teme.

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm

Knighton on Teme Parish Council

Signed (Chairman) Date
