

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
NORTON-JUXTA-KEMPSEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON  
THE 27<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2008 AT NORTON PARISH HALL, LITTLEWORTH**

Public question time discussions are included as Appendix 2.

**1. Apologies for Absence –**

H. Turvey, A. Bennett. The apologies were accepted and approved.

**Attending –**

M. Reeves (Chair), Mrs. C. McGovern, Mrs. D. Hewison, P. Richmond, R. Phillips, D. Lucas, G. Dyer, Cllr. R. Adams (District & County Councillor), Mrs. J. Greenway (Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer).

**2. Chairman Position**

a) Cllr. Reeves advised that Cllr. Turvey is considering this position and will make a decision following the Parish Plan meeting of 15<sup>th</sup> December. Cllr. Reeves will step down as Chair at the end of the year, remaining as a Parish Councillor to follow through projects such as the Brockhill Recreation Area and flood alleviation projects.

b) Allocation of future responsibilities, including the newsletter report, will be reviewed at the January meeting, when an update should be available on a new Chairman.

c) The Clerk advised that Wychavon DC has advised that the Parish Council may co-opt to fill the vacancy for Councillor. The Clerk will display a notice advertising the vacancy and requesting applications by 15<sup>th</sup> December. Doug Lucas expressed an interest in this position. Cllr. Reeves introduced and welcomed Garry Dyer who will become a co-opted member of the Parish Council (a position which does not include voting rights).

**3. Declarations of Interest**

There were none.

**4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2008**

It was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. Hewison, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. McGovern **and all were in agreement** that the minutes of the 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2008 be approved.

**5. 2008/165 Reports**

**a) Cllr. R.C. Adams (District & County Councillor)**

Cllr. Adams advised that a 'credit crunch' meeting is being held at County Hall on 8<sup>th</sup> December to provide advice/support from Worcs CC and Wychavon DC to businessmen. He reported upon funding available via County Councillors to assist with health issues and asked for details of any areas within the parish that may be appropriate for support. Adult and Community Services has received another star rating leading Worcs CC towards excellent authority status. Cllr. Adams added that funding to support dementia will require a substantial increase over coming years. He advised that communications continue regarding the SWJCS and RSS and stressed the importance of the Parish remaining up to date with developments, providing feedback and responding to consultations, particularly as sites for development become more clearly identified.

**b) Planning Committee**

i) The Clerk summarised the current applications:

Approvals

**4 Mandalay Drive, Norton**  
**Ref: W/08/02025**

Conversion of existing garage and extensions to form  
Granny annexe. Parish does not support.

**Land adj. Closes Cottage, Hatfield Bank. Ref: W/08/2530** Demolition and removal of existing buildings and replacement with purpose built hay store and implements shed. Resubmission of W/08/01546 (withdrawn by applicant). Parish supports with conditions/concerns.

Refusals

**Shortcroft House, Hatfield Lane Ref: W/08/02228** Extension of existing annexe accommodation to form 2 bedroom annexe. Parish does not support.

Awaiting Decision

**Norton Hall Nursing Home Ref: W/07/00182** Two storey and single storey extensions to provide additional bedrooms, new dining room and lounge. New access & drive and new sewage treatment plant. Parish supports with concerns noted. To Development Control Committee.

**Land, Hatfield House, Hatfield Lane. Ref: W/08/2397** Proposed new dwelling on land adj. to Hatfield House. Parish supports with conditions.

**Land, Hatfield House, Hatfield Lane. Ref: W/08/2397** Proposed new dwelling on land adj. to Hatfield House. Amendment 1 - reduction in size of the proposed 2 storey rear extension and remodelling of the external elevations. Amendment 2 - amended location and block plans showing proposed visibility splays, revisions to proposed access for new dwelling, revisions to proposed new ponds and amendments to proposed garage. Details of alterations to boundary hedge. Parish supports with conditions.

**Lavender Cottage, Woodbury Lane Ref: W/08/01887** Change of use and erection of two timber buildings for use as a farm shop and tea rooms, construction of a grass roof underground store next to existing barn. Parish does not support.

Internal Consultation

**SMH Fleet Solutions, Church Lane Ref: W/08/02902** Proposed extension of car parking storage area by filling up of the existing clay pit/lake with inert material (topsoil and subsoil) to create surfaced and drained parking area.

Other - None

Cllr. Reeves advised that the Lavender Cottage application is likely to go to the full Planning Committee and the Parish Council may wish to make representation at this meeting. Cllr. Adams did not take part in this discussion other than to advise that the Parish Council could decide upon this when notified of the Planning Meeting details. This was agreed. The Clerk will contact Councillors upon receipt of the Planning Meeting papers from Wychavon DC. Cllr. Reeves clarified that when making representation to Planning Meetings, it is the view of the Parish Council that is expressed and not the personal view of the member of the Parish Council.

The Clerk advised that Richard Alexander, the planning consultant for SHM, has offered to be available, along with Graham Sinclair of SMH, to discuss any queries the Parish Council may have concerning the SMH planning applications. A further application is awaited regarding a proposed workshop.

**ii)** It was agreed to review the Chair of the Planning ‘Committee’ position at the January Parish Council meeting.

### **c) Allotments Committee**

Cllr. Mrs. McGovern advised that 3 plots have been split and let to new tenants from the waiting list. Annual rent letters have been sent out. It was agreed that in view of the impending festive season and the wet soil conditions, the need for letters to be sent regarding breaches in the allotment tenancy agreement will be reviewed in early spring. Also see agenda item 12.

### **d) Playing Fields Committee**

The Clerk reported continued football bookings by one adult team and an increased use of line marker due to wet conditions. The tennis court surface has been cleared, the fence repaired and Mr. Pullen is re-painting the lines around the basketball court to highlight the trip hazard. The Clerk is making enquiries concerning re-fitting one of the tennis net posts and re-marking the lines on court. See agenda item 14 for play area surface repairs.

### **e) Footpaths Committee**

Cllr. Turvey was unable to attend the meeting and no report was available.

### **f) Finance**

(i) The current account balance was £11,010.69 on 31<sup>st</sup> October with the deposit account balance at £38,504.27 on 3<sup>rd</sup> November. Cllr. Reeves reminded Councillors that shares were sold a little while ago and whilst £10,000 of these proceeds was invested in Treasury Stock, funds remain in the deposit account. He added that with interest rates so low, it may be that consideration be given to expenditure on capital projects.

The Clerk advised that Zurich Insurance has been contacted following the recent fall at the Hall (as reported under correspondence at the October Parish Council meeting). Zurich has advised that liability should fall to whoever was in control of the premises at that time, which would be seen to be the hirer of the Hall. Cllr. Mrs. McGovern advised that the Hall Management Committee have received a letter from the person who fell and are investigating the issues and reviewing the level of public liability insurance.

The Clerk tabled the Lengthsman timesheets to provide information regarding items of work completed.

(ii) The Clerk reported on the monthly accounts circulated with the agenda and again reiterated that contingency/unallocated funds have now been fully utilised, therefore any further expenditure not included in the original budget will need to be covered from reserves.

(iii) After discussion of the draft budget circulated with the agenda, which was explained by the Clerk, it was suggested that in the current climate perhaps a 15% precept increase was not appropriate. A 4% increase in precept to £27,040 was proposed by Cllr. Phillips, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Hewison and agreed by all with the exception of one abstention. The Clerk will advise Wychavon DC of the 2009/10 precept requirement. In order to balance the budget in accordance with the agreed precept, any capital items/projects will be financed from reserves and the Clerk will make reductions to 'Administration' expenditure lines. The revised 2009/10 budget is attached as Appendix 3. Cllr. Reeves reminded Councillors that around 6 years ago, £10k was added to reserves specifically for the Brockhill Recreation Area project. He also added that it is important that income/expenditure details are clear to parishioners and that they are aware that the precept/parish income may need to be supplemented from reserves for specific projects/capital items. It was agreed that this is not a sustainable situation longer term as reserves need to be maintained at sensible levels as a contingency, to plan for future capital projects/items of expenditure and potentially for Hall maintenance costs.

### **g) West Mercia Police**

Cllr. Reeves welcomed WPC Dene Storr. WPC Storr advised that she has a background in local rural policing and is covering our Parish whilst a new appointment is made to replace WPC Buesing (nee Fell). A high profile, physical presence has been provided to the Parish, particularly in Norton, including evening visits. Since 24<sup>th</sup> October, 34 incidents have been logged, 20 information logs, 3 burglaries, 3 domestic situations, 3 road traffic collision, 1 assault and 4 anti-social behaviour reports. These were considered reasonable levels for the size of our parish. In

roads are being made into the anti-social behaviour problems, with repeat young offenders noted and enquiries being made regarding installation of CCTV, which it is hoped will reinforce the message that anti-social behaviour will not be tolerated. A scheme is running at Drakes Broughton Middle School looking at behaviour in the community, the impact of this and the important contribution that young people can make to their communities.

WPC Storr added that the public are being encouraged to come forward to support reports made anonymously and improving public confidence in the Police to support witnesses and follow up reports made is being focussed upon. A 'dog watch' scheme (which was successful in Malvern) is being set up which extends community involvement in providing feedback to the Police. Four people are being interviewed concerning the car badge thefts at Norton and attempts are being made to return recovered badges to their owners. WPC Storr welcomed feedback from the Parish in terms of policing requirements/support. In terms of cars parking on pavements, Wychavon DC (via Dave Hemmings) is now responsible for such problems unless there is a complete obstruction. WPC Storr will obtain feedback from CSO Fogwill regarding the planned livery yard visits to seek assistance with the problem of horses being ridden on pavement and leaving horse mess as an obstruction.

WPC Storr was thanked for a very comprehensive report and the work undertaken.

#### **h) Brockhill Recreation Area**

Cllr. Reeves advised that matters are proceeding and that he is drawing up plans for the site.

#### **i) Parish Plan**

Cllr. Turvey was unable to attend the meeting and no report was available. Cllr. Reeves advised that the next Parish Plan meeting will be held on 15<sup>th</sup> December.

### **6. 2008/166 EnviroSort**

Mr. Lucas advised that construction is progressing well and the roof is being installed. Mr. Lucas and Cllr. Reeves met representatives from Severn Waste on site for an update. Severn Waste is being very diligent on ensuring that the planning conditions are being met and communication is good with the Liaison Group. One of the site entrances has been moved slightly, which is considered an improvement. A pre-arranged visit by the Parish Council and a separate visit by members of the public will be accommodated, once the roof and floor are installed, subject to health and safety restrictions. One complaint has been received by Severn Waste concerning lights shining into Woodbury Park and this has been rectified. Mr. Lucas commented upon press reports regarding stock piling of end products and provided reassurance from Severn Waste that storage of stock piled items would not take place on site as it has long term contracts in place for clients to purchase fixed quantities at fixed prices.

Severn Waste is contacting Worcs CC in connection with education opportunities and it has been suggested that NJK First School may be involved. A press release will be made in January/February 2009 once the roof and floor are installed which is likely to include photo opportunities. Mr. Lucas will ensure that Derek Prodger is informed of the details in due course. Cllr. Mrs. McGovern will join Mr. Lucas at the January Liaison Group meeting. Mr. Lucas will advise the date to Cllr. Mrs. McGovern.

### **7. 2008/167 West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS)/South Worcestershire Joint Core Strategy (SWJCS)**

The responses to the SWJCS and RSS were tabled. The Clerk will distribute copies upon request.

### **8. 2008/168 Flooding Issues**

Cllr. Reeves is in the process of submitting further details concerning the flood alleviation proposal for the area of land to the rear of the field adjacent to Coppice Cottage to the Environment Agency HQ and will contact Network Rail regarding the proposals if required. Wychavon DC has advised

that it will be inviting bids for limited funding for flood prevention measures in due course. Cllr. Adams will make further enquiries.

**9. 2008/169 2009/10 Budget and Precept**

See agenda item 5. f (iii) above.

**10. 2008/170 Freedom of Information Publication Scheme**

The Clerk advised that under the Freedom of Information Act it is the duty of every public authority to adopt and maintain a publication scheme. The Scheme circulated with the agenda was explained by the Clerk. It was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. Hewison, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. McGovern and agreed by all that this Scheme be adopted by the Parish Council. It was also agreed that information will be supplied free of charge, on the basis that collecting very small charges would not be cost efficient, however this will be reviewed if considerable numbers of requests for information are received.

**11. 2008/171 Consultation Paper: Draft Supplementary Planning Document on Water Management**

Mr. Lucas offered to review the consultation paper and provide a draft response (which is due by 4<sup>th</sup> December) to the Clerk if considered appropriate. This was agreed by all.

**12. 2008/172 Allotments**

After discussion it was agreed by all to introduce a twelve month trial period for new allotment tenants, this would be in addition to the terms of the standard Allotment Tenancy Agreement.

**13. 2008/173 Bridleway 513, Church Lane**

Cllr. Reeves provided background to the request received and the Clerk read out extracts from the draft letter from Mr. & Mrs. Kite to the Secretary of State for the Environment. It was proposed by Cllr. Richmond, seconded by Cllr. Phillips and agreed by all that the width of the bridleway should be defined, regardless of the history of the neighbourhood dispute over possible encroachment. The Clerk will draft a letter for approval by Cllr. Reeves.

**14. 2008/174 Quotes to Repair/Replace Play Area Surface**

Despite meeting a second contractor on site and making many enquiries, the Clerk advised that just one quote has been received. In view of the potential for future health and safety issues, it was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. Hewison, seconded by Cllr. Phillips and agreed by all that Dura-Sport should be instructed to undertake this repair work at a cost of £1,560 plus VAT. This expenditure will be financed via reserves.

**15. 2008/175 Bus Shelter Vandalism**

The Clerk will request quotes based upon installation of polycarbonate perspex which should be shatterproof. The Clerk advised that enquiries have been made via Wychavon DC concerning installation of CCTV equipment by the bus shelters to gather evidence regarding those vandalising the bus shelters, however an appropriate location for installation was not available.

**16. 2008/176 Bench Maintenance**

It was agreed that many of the benches in the parish are in need of maintenance. The Clerk will ask Mr. Pullen to carry out maintenance over the next few months, once the weather improves. The Clerk, Cllr. Reeves and Cllr. Mrs McGovern will meet to agree the location for installation of the benches on the large grass verge at the corner of Church Lane/Crookbarrow Road.

**17. 2008/177 Wychavon Bursary 2008/9**

After discussion it was agreed to nominate Les Simms for his service to the parish over many years. Cllr. Richmond will provide a resume of the contributions made by Les Simms to support the nomination to the Clerk by 5<sup>th</sup> January.

## 18. 2008/178 Parish Council Website

The Clerk provided an update on development of Parish Council websites by Worcs CC. The NJK Parish Council website can be viewed at [www.worcestershire.gov.uk/MyParish](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/MyParish) by clicking on 'N' and then selecting our parish. The Clerk has started to populate the comprehensive site with meeting dates. The site for Chaddesley Corbett Parish Council has been fully populated as part of the pilot and provides an example of what our site could look like. It was agreed that Councillors will give thought to what details they would like adding to our site regarding the Parish Councillors section e.g. names, pen portrait, photos, contact details. The Clerk confirmed that this is a free offering from Worcs CC and the site would be maintained by the Clerk.

## 19. 2008/179 Finance

a) It was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. Hewison, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. McGovern **and all were in agreement** that the accounts detailed below be approved for payment/confirmation.

Accounts for Confirmation: None

Accounts for Payment:

<b>Creditor</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>Amount £</b>
Fasthosts Internet Ltd	'NJK our future' website name registration	6.93
Shear Perfection	Tennis court surface maintenance	95.00
New Farm Grounds Maintenance	Playing field mowing (1 <sup>st</sup> & 16 <sup>th</sup> October)	116.70
J. Roach	Litter picking Sept/Oct (18hrs)	101.15
M. Jenkins	Planting tubs at Parish Hall & Barracks roundabout plus November maintenance	300.00
Severn Trent Water	Allotments water May to November 2008	28.92
Southern Electric	Regiment Close street lighting Oct 2008	2.31
Security Patrol Services	Locking of Parish Hall gates 6/10/08 to 2/11/08 (Invs. 13591, 13614, 13637, 13659)	115.16
J. Greenway	Honorarium November 2008	595.76
J. Greenway	Expenses November 2008	113.89
Society of Local Council Clerks	Annual membership	94.00
Security Patrol Services	Locking of Parish Hall gates 3/11/08 to 16/11/08 (Invs. 13681 & 13703)	57.58
Southern Electric	Lighting – Regiment Close 1/7/08 to 3/11/08 (Dusk to Dawn supply)	54.58
R. Pullen	Parish maintenance (7hrs) plus paint for work in Parish Hall grounds	61.09
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,743.07</b>
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>1,743.07</b>

The Clerk advised that a cheque posted to Simon Prosser has been reported as not received however the cheque for £130.20 has been presented to the bank. It was agreed that the Clerk will arrange for the bank to trace the cheque prior to a replacement cheque being issued. The Clerk will advise Mr. Prosser.

## 20. 2008/180 Correspondence for Information

See Appendix 1 for a list of correspondence received. The Clerk reported that Worcs CC has advised that one of the large grass verges at Brockhill will not form part of the public maintainable highway once the area has been adopted. The Clerk will make enquiries regarding ownership of this parcel of land. The Clerk commented briefly on the correspondence from Norton Pre-School, advising that more details will be provided for the January Parish Council meeting. The potential for impact upon Parish Hall booking fees was noted and Cllr. Mrs. McGovern will mention this at the next Hall Management Committee meeting.

**21. 2008/181 Clerk's Report on Urgent Decisions since the Last Meeting**

The Clerk advised that there was nothing further to report other than those items already discussed during the meeting.

**22. 2008/182 Items for Update to Local M.P.**

It was agreed that a letter will be sent to Peter Luff MP concerning the SMH proposals regarding the change in footprint and other site developments. The Clerk will liaise with Cllr. Reeves. The Clerk will send copies of the responses to the RSS and SWJCS to Peter Luff M.P.

**23. 2008/183 Councillors' Reports and Items for Future Agenda**

Cllr. Reeves was thanked for his much appreciated long service to the Council, with many years as Chairman.

**24. 2008/184 Date of Next Meeting – Thursday 29th January 2009**

Meeting dates for 2009 were agreed as follows: 29<sup>th</sup> January, 26<sup>th</sup> February, 26<sup>th</sup> March, 30<sup>th</sup> April, 28<sup>th</sup> May, 25<sup>th</sup> June, 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 24<sup>th</sup> September, 29<sup>th</sup> October and 26<sup>th</sup> November. 2009 Annual Parish Meeting: 9<sup>th</sup> April.

The meeting closed at 10.45pm.

<b><u>Correspondence Received for 27<sup>th</sup> November 2008 Parish Council Meeting</u></b>	
<b>Sender</b>	<b>Subject</b>
Acanthus Clews Architects	Attendance of November Parish Council public question time session to present planning proposals for Mucknell Farm.
Anonymous	Anti-social behaviour witnessed (forwarded to the Police)
Clerks & Councils Direct	Magazine November 2008
Community First	News Line magazine November 2008
Community First	Training – Effective Team Working and Planning the Work of your Organisation
CPRE	Comments on NLP housing options study (re RSS)
CPRE	Countryside Voice Magazine Autumn 2008
CPRE	Minutes from Housing meeting 20 <sup>th</sup> October
Dura-Sport Ltd	Quote for repair to play area surface
Festival Housing Group	Annual Report 2007/8
John Stallard & Co	Land ownership
Mr. Powell	Bridleway 513, Church Lane
NALC	Local Council Review magazine November 2008
Norton Pre-School	Enquiry regarding erecting a modular type building on Parish Hall grounds to house Pre-School (Pre-School to fund). Outline proposal to follow for review at January Parish Council meeting.
Parish Council Website	Website content management system
Pershore High School	Invitation to Carol Service Weds 10 <sup>th</sup> December Pershore Abbey @7.30pm
Pershore High School	Newsletter Oct/Nov08
Peter Luff M.P.	Autumn 2008 Westminster Report
Society of Local Council Clerks	Annual membership renewal
Society of Local Council Clerks	Project Management Course and The Clerk magazine November 2008
St. Richard's Hospice	Heartbeat newsletter Autumn 2008
SWJCS	Acknowledgement of response to consultation
SWJCS	Registration on the SWJCS Consult System
West Midlands RSS	Acknowledgement of response to consultation
West Midlands RSS	Public examination procedure for RSS Phase II Revision
Worcester City Council	Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document –adoption of revised document
Worcs Association of Carers	Christmas Concert 5 <sup>th</sup> December
Worcs CALC	Chairman of the Parish Council
Worcs CALC	Updates on various topics
Worcs CALC	Updates on various topics
Worcs CC	Bus timetable changes (not Worcester/Pershore)
Worcs CC	Children and young People Strategic Partnership Members Reference Group 2pm, 3 <sup>rd</sup> December @ County Hall
Worcs CC	Christmas park and ride – Perdiswell and County Hall (Saturdays plus Christmas Fayre 27 <sup>th</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov)
Worcs CC	Evening bus service during festive season
Worcs CC	Highways News Nov08
Worcs CC	The Worcestershire warden newsletter October 2008
Worcs CC	Verges that will become publicly maintainable highway once adoption completed
Worcs CC	Wow newsletter Autumn/Winter 2008
Worcs Infrastructure Consortium	Invitation to annual conference and Costing and Bid Writing training
Wychavon Community Action Partnership	Credit Crunch event. 8 <sup>th</sup> December 4.30-7pm
Wychavon DC	2009/10 Precept (required by 15 <sup>th</sup> January)
Wychavon DC	Consultation – Draft supplementary planning document on water management (comments by 4 <sup>th</sup> December)

**Correspondence Received for 27<sup>th</sup> November 2008 Parish Council Meeting (continued)**

<b>Sender</b>	<b>Subject</b>
Wychavon DC	Copy correspondence to land owner re maintenance of watercourse at Church Lane, Norton
Wychavon DC	Copy letter sent re land drainage and maintenance of watercourse Church Lane, Norton
Wychavon DC	Flood Data Sheets and Action Plan
Wychavon DC	Flood prevention funding
Wychavon DC	Free multi-skills/multi sports sessions to local community groups
Wychavon DC	Orchestra of the Swan production at local village hall
Wychavon DC	Parish Matters newsletter October 2008
Wychavon DC	Planning approval notices: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- W/08/02025: 4 Mandalay Drive, Norton. Conversion of existing garage and extension to form Granny annex</li><li>- W/08/02530: Land adj. Closes Cottage, Hatfield Bank. Demolition and removal of existing buildings and replacement with purpose built hay store and implements shed. Resubmission of application W/08/01546 (withdrawn by applicant)</li></ul>
Wychavon DC	Standards Committee meeting agenda 19 <sup>th</sup> November
Wychavon DC	The W Factor Tour 2008
Wychavon DC	WMRSS Phase II Preferred Option Consultation. Wychavon response and reminder of deadline for comments of 8 <sup>th</sup> December
Wychavon DC	Wychavon Bursary 2008/9 nominations
Zurich Insurance	Changes to Community Insurance Centre underwriting

**Notes from the Public Question Time Prior to the Parish Council Meeting**

Cllr. Reeves welcomed Camilla Finlay of Acanthus Clews Architects and Stuart Burns, Abbot of the Anglican Benedictine Community (who were previously based at Burford Priory) who attended the meeting to provide details of a planning proposal to convert Mucknell Farm to a monastery for the Community.

Camilla Finlay advised that whilst the site for development of the new monastery buildings sits within Stoulton Parish, the access road is within Norton-juxta-Kempsey Parish. Background to the proposals to build a new sustainable monastery with the aim of self sufficiency was provided, along with display boards to visually explain the proposals.

In terms of traffic movements and use of the B4084 junction to access the Community, there would be one car on site that would be shared amongst the Community members. One to two vehicle movements are envisaged per day plus a bio mass fuel delivery once a month, a weekly food delivery and post deliveries. On this basis there would be no real uplift in traffic and probably less than if the site was redeveloped as a large family dwelling.

Camilla Finlay advised that the access lane is adopted highway up to the gates of the old farm. Improvements to the access junction did not form part of the previous planning application for this site, however because this proposal is considered a change of use, the access road and junction are under scrutiny by Worcs Highways as safety issues have been highlighted at this junction in the past. A definitive response from Highways regarding requirements is awaited by the applicant. Whilst junction modifications to improve safety will be undertaken if required, the scale of these in terms of future traffic movements needs clarification plus there could be major cost implications which would impact upon the final monastery facilities/design.

Camilla Finlay will make enquiries of Highways concerning proposals to extend the existing 40mph speed limit over the bridge and also regarding the speed limit consultation to reduce the speed limit to 30mph.

In view of the time delays being experienced regarding the access junction requirements and the need to commence monastery building work, Camilla Finlay advised the planning application may be submitted to Wychavon DC prior to the outcome of the junction situation being known, with an amendment to the application being submitted to encompass any modifications to the junction at a later date.