

KIDDERMINSTER FOREIGN PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council
held on Monday 16th May 2016 at 7.30pm at Trimpley Village Hall

Present Councillor C Grainger
Councillor Mrs. L. Green
Councillor Mr. G. Yarranton
Councillor Mr. J. Gammond
District Councillor Rebecca Vale
2 Police Officers attending

Councillor Mr. R Jennings
2 members of the public were present.
Mrs E Whitehouse (Clerk)
Mr. Michael Simpson – Project
Manager – We don't buy Crime

1. **Talk by Michael Simpson, Project Manager- "We don't buy Crime"**

As most people are aware, there is now an official alliance between West Mercia and Warwickshire police forces, working together. They are both slightly different but are both concerned with not just how to investigate crime, but how to prevent it. The main aim of the initiative is for people to mark property, and get it recorded and registered. One of the first questions asked after a burglary is "Have you got details and descriptions of what has been taken. Serial Numbers, pictures, etc?" The public should be encouraged to write down a record and/or register their property on "Immobilise.com". Members asked Mr. Simpson if this was secure. He replied "Yes – you register, and get an account number, and via a unique reference number you are directed to a list where you can register all your property details. Members stated that in the past the police were not very good at recovering and returning stolen property. Mr. Simpson said that this website should help, and if property is marked – with Smartwater preferably - all frontline officers now have a UV Torch, to check property at second-hand shops, sales, and car boots. It was noted at a recent car boot sale in Telford, when officers started to use their UV torches ~~out~~ people at the boot sales started to pack up and go away. JAC

Cleobury Mortimer is now a Smartwater village. Each household was provided with a kit at discounted amount of around £8.90 per household. (Kit retails at £68). If bought through Michael Simpson, they can be provided at around £8.90. If 70% of householders sign up then the village gets signs to erect on entrance. In Cleobury, part of the kit was funded by the Parish Council, and the Police Cadets went to each household to demonstrate how to use it and fill out the registration form. Although kits have a "use-by" date, they last a long time (two/three years). Each kit will mark around 50 items of property, and it is much better than a UV Pen mark, as the latter can rub off. Every bottle is unique, and in areas of use burglaries have dropped considerably.

On 30th June 2016 – 6.30p.m. All parish councils are invited to a Crime Prevention event at Far Forest showground to showcase all types of crime prevention methods.

Mr. Simpson was careful to advise that he was not actively promoting Smartwater, but he felt that it was a very useful device in Crime Prevention.

Chairman asked if this could be an agenda item to discuss further on at the next Parish Council meeting.

2. **Police Report and Public Local Forum**

In the area this month, there had been one shed break-in, and one break-in at a barn conversion currently under construction. At attendance of any domestic burglary the householder now receives a Smartwater pack.

Public Forum

Mr. Collins again raised the safety issue re the road surface coming up from golf course to crossroads. Because the road is like glass, a horse cannot get purchase on the carriageway particularly from Wildwoods to Trimpley crossroads. Horses actually slip and sit down, and as such it is a highway safety matter. Mr. Collins stated that the highway authority is culpable at not tackling this as a safety issue. The county Council are prepared to pay fines – e.g. on potholes, etc. but this is equally a matter of safety for road users. Clerk to write to the County Council pointing out that this is a matter of road safety, and voicing concern about the surface. It was suggested that Mr. Collins also get in touch with the British Horse Society to get further backing for the cause.

3. **Election of Chairman for 2016-17 and Signing of Acceptance of Office as Chairman**

It was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed that Cllr. Mrs. L. Green take the office of Chair for 2016-17. Cllr. Green accepted office, and signed the declaration accordingly.

4. **Apologies for Absence** – Apologies were received and approved from Cllr. Mrs. C Gammond and Cllr. B. Phillips.

5. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Cllr. Yarranton advised he was Vice Chairman of the District Council Planning committee, and as such reserved the right to change his opinion on planning matters should new information be submitted by Officers. Cllr. J. Gammond declared an interest in being Chairman of the Village Hall committee. Cllr Grainger declared an interest in any items relating to Riddings Brook.
6. **Election of Vice Chairman for 2016-17**
It was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed that Cllr. J. Gammond take the office of Vice Chairman for 2016-17. Cllr. J. Gammond accepted office.
7. **Annual Report of Chairman for 2015-16**
There have been twelve meetings of the Parish Council this year, and in addition Councillors have attended meetings of the local association of Parish councils, and on site meetings.
This has been a year of challenges for the parish council, and one which shows the validity of an organisation which reflects the needs of a local community. The Council has continued to be the eyes and ears of the Parish, putting forward local knowledge to the planning and relevant authorities.

A major disappointment has been the installation of the solar panel array at Trimpley Reservoir, which much to our dismay has been installed under the rules of Permitted development. As you know there was no public notification or consultation about this large development in an area of natural beauty, and as a Council we feel this has not been in the public interest and we have contacted our M.P. with our concerns. Another planning issue which has come to our notice is of builders and developers not adhering to plans that have been passed. Again this is something we feel should be raised with the local authority.

Carole and Elsie have worked hard trying to clarify and resolve the above issues. At times this has been stressful and frustrating, and I thank them for their hard work.

On a happier note the Lengthsman's Scheme continues to work well. Our lengthsman Sam and Tom Archer have taken over litter picking duties, and maintenance of the VA signs in the parish. This is in addition to their work with grips and ditches etc. Thanks go not only to them, but to Ben Phillips for co-ordinating this work.

Ongoing issues continue to be repairs to potholes, and removal of debris from flytipping: the Council prompting the local authority to deal with both.

Severn Trent have replaced water mains pipes in two areas of the Parish, and we hope this will finally resolve the leaks that have been the cause of much contact from the Council to Severn Trent.

The Council has given financial support to Arley School to enable the children to go swimming, and also made a contribution to Trimpley Church. Both of these are ongoing.

Thanks must go to Gordon Yarranton who has been extremely helpful with provision of funding when needed.

We have continued to improve the appearance of the Parish. More daffodils and wildflowers have been planted, and some of the old notice boards replaced. This, and the ongoing work of the lengthsman, means that we have a Parish to be proud of.

Finally thanks to vice chairman Louise, and to all members of the Council who work so hard to support the interests of the community. I would like to give special thanks to Carol for her work monitoring the footpaths, and with planning; and to Elsie our parish clerk for the most efficient way she has carried out all the extra work that has been thrust upon her this year.
The Chairman thanked Cllr.Grainger for his report.
8. **Annual Report of Parish Paths and Recreational Route Warden for 2015-16**
To be reported at the next meeting. Received by Clerk but not brought to the Meeting.
9. **Confirmation of Other Officers and Posts held:- (all approved unanimously en-bloc)**
CALC Representatives- Cllrs. C Grainger & Mrs L. Green
Tree Wardens – Mr. M. Delahay and Ms . Ralls
Lengthsman Liaison – Cllr. B. Phillips

10. **Approval of the Minutes** The minutes of the Meeting of the Annual Parish Meeting and Parish Council held on 18th April 2016 were approved and signed after amendments.
11. **District and County Councillor Reports inc. progress reports on other matters**
Items reported for attention by District or County Council by Cllr. Yarranton and other items of matters arising..

Becky Vale – new District Councillor – was introduced to Members.

She advised that she would be trying to combat increasing **Fly Tipping** particularly farmers fields. She felt that farmers were guilty of just tolerating and dealing with it, when they should, in fact, report it as a rural crime. Clerk to note this for the next newsletter. She felt it was a real issue – there had been 6 cases of flytipping in the blackstone area just today. There were also associated animal welfare issues.

- **Road cracks / subsidence in Hoarstone Lane** – Had been investigated and would be dealt with. County Council believe it not to be a water source which may have changed course.
- **Charging VA Sign & Batteries** –Clerk was awaiting VA sign from Cllr. Phillips to send away for repair. First of all, serial number had to be relayed to manufacturer. Clerk to follow up with Cllr. B. Phillips.
- **Fly Tipping** - many incidents reported again. Cllr. Gordon Yarranton still making enquiries to see if CCTV could be deployed locally. He advised that Caroline Newlands had said that as long as we do not target any particular person, there appeared to be no reason why we cannot install cameras to pick up fly tippers. Cabinet members are to report back to Cllr. Yarranton on 18th May, and he will report fully to next meeting.
- **Ridings Brook** – It was reported that a blockage had occurred near to the culvert which goes under the bypass. A team of investigators was being deployed to see how this had occurred, and would be walking the length of the brook.
- **Trees in Northwood Lane** – Councillor Yarranton reported that two trees adjoining Northwood Lane would be felled, as the roots were causing highway problems.
- **Village Signs** - Cllr. Yarranton advised that it was correct that Worcestershire County Council would replace the existing standard village signs should they be damaged or stolen. There was therefore no need to include these on the Parish insurance cover.
- **Habberley Road** – report that this was to be closed(or partially closed) for several days due to resurfacing.
- **Blue Disabled parking badges** – Clerk had a supply of hardcopy forms if anyone required one. (Newsletter item perhaps).

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT CONTROL:

a) Previous planning applications

15/0681 - : Retention of Actiflow Pilot Plant and associated infrastructure for a period of two years at SEVERN TRENT WATER TREATMENT PLAN, 1 EYMORE GREEN, TRIMPLEY, BEWDLEY, DY121PL

Awaiting decision

16/0041/EIA – Construction of Powder Activated Carbon Dosing Unit and alterations to the Pump House at Trimpley Reservoir by Severn Trent Water

Awaiting decision

16/0157 – Honeybrook Lodge – Single Storey Rear Extension

Awaiting decision

b) New Applications considered

16/0262 – Side Extension – Homelea, Hill Farm, Northwood Lane

Comment: No objections and recommend approval.

16/0299 – First Floor rear Extension and Rear Dormer at 2 Rose Cottage, Crundalls Lane, Bewdley

Comment: No objections and recommend approval.

c) Compliance Issues /Appeals

- Easter Cottage -**) these properties were being investigated by
- Crundalls Cottage –**) District Council Enforcement Officers. Nothing new to report.
- Trimpley Green Farm**)
- Tree Felling at Park Attwood** – Nothing further to report

Trimpley Reservoir. JAG

d) Matters relating to the Solar Park Development at ~~Park Attwood Clinic~~

Clerk had compiled a reply to the MP, outlining all answers to questions posed in his letter and it was agreed that that this should be sent. It was also agreed that the Clerk should attempt to get an article published in the Local Council Review magazine, as a cautionary message to other councils about what could be built under the general permitted development order.

12. Progress Reports / Correspondence, and other Outstanding Items

BT Cover – Mary Moors – Clerk had chased this up – but heard nothing. Cllr. J. Gammond felt that the matter had been dealt with, and the cover repaired. To be checked.

13. Localism - Litter Picking –

Contract working well with Archer Bros. Clerk had received the annual payment from the District Council for the year 2016-17 and also this year's amount for siting of the bin at the village hall – the latter to be paid to the Village Hall

8. Lengthsman –

Invoice for work done was tabled – 30 hours, approved.

9. Financial Reports .

a) Cheques signed :

- Clerk's PAYE - £60.80
- Payment to Village Hall for siting of Litter Bin - £242
- Lengthsman - £300
- Chairman's Allowance - £100
- C Grainger for supply of Wild Flower Seed - £45.00

Receipts

- Half Yearly amount of the Precept for 2016-17 had been received - £4448.85
- Half Yearly amount of Shortfall Grant for 2016-17 had been received - £18.40
- Litter Contract amount for 2016-17 received £1584
- Litter Bin siting at Village Hall - £242
- VAT refund - £214.50

b) External Audit

Clerk had issued notice of Audit to be posted on the Parish Noticeboards, and had sent the Annual Accounts Summary and Return to the External Auditors.

10. CALC Matters, County and District and Other Correspondence

Trees offer – Clerk had details of Community Tree Packs, free to Parish Councils, and it was understood that there may be an opportunity to use such a pack on land belonging to Ivor Hayward, near to Easthams. To be discussed at the next meeting.

11. Other Matters

Hollies Lane – Restricted By-Way usage by motorised vehicles

A laminated sign had been provided and put up by the Clerk, but had disappeared within a few days. An official sign by the County Council was to be provided and erected, and the footpath post straightened.

Date of Next Meeting –

20th June – It was proposed by Cllr. Yarranton that meetings should start earlier, as discussion content was so great that meetings went on until late. It was unanimously agreed that future meetings should start at 7.30pm.
Meeting closed at 10.10p.m.

Chairman : L.A. Green