

BAYTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Monthly Parish Council Meeting of Bayton Parish Council held in VICTORY HALL CLOWS TOP at 8.00pm on Tuesday 12th March 2019

Present: Cllr Clarke (Chairman), Cllr Miles (Vice Chairman),
Cllr Adams, Cllr Sharp

In Attendance: Clerk, six Members of the Public

1. **Apologies:** Received and accepted from Cllr Kemp.
2. **Declaration of Interest:**
 - a. **Register of Interests** – Cllrs are reminded to keep their registers updated.
 - b. **Disclosable Pecuniary Interests** – None declared.
 - c. **Other Disclosable Interests** – None declared.
3. **Dispensations** –
 - a. To consider written requests from councillors for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) – **None requested.**
4. **Public Question Time** – See notes at end of minutes.
5. **Minutes of Parish Council Meeting** held on 12th February 2019 were agreed by all and signed by Chairman.
6. **County Cllr Report** – Apologies received, report circulated see notes below.
District Cllr Report – Late apologies received, no report.
7. **Progress reports for information** –
 - a. **Waste bins for Parish** – New bins now being used. Siting of old post bins discussed. It was agreed to put one at top of Yew Tree Lane, Clows Top. There is one bin still available for use in the Parish.
 - b. **Elections 2nd May** – One Cllr stated he will not be standing for election. MHDC sending paperwork to Clerk, signed papers need to be hand delivered to MHDC by 4pm 3rd April.
8. **Reports on Meetings attended by Clerk or Cllrs** – **None.**
9. **Finances** –
 - a. **Payments made** – Mr I Mapp (LM February 2019) = £195.00, (DD) Plusnet (Wifi) = £34.20
 - b. **To report receipts since last meeting** – WCC LM Payments October/November £325.00.
 - c. **Bank Reconciliation February 2019** (circulated) – Signed by Cllr balance agreed as £21225.01 in cash book.
 - d. **Clerks Salary increase** – to note National increase from 1st April 2019. Standing Order to be changed to £243.84 per month from 8th April 2019, letter for bank signed by two Cllrs.
10. **Planning:**
 - a. **Plans circulated since last meeting** – None.
 - b. **Decisions received since last meeting** –
 - 19/00033/GPDP – **The Workshop, Beach Hay, Bayton DY14 9NF** – Notification for Prior Approval for change of use from Storage or Distribution Building (B8) and any land within tis curtilage to dwelling house (C3). **Approved by MHDC.**
 - 19/00017/GGPDE – **Tanners Bungalow, Beach Hay, Bayton DY14 9NF** – Prior approval for a proposed larger house extension. **Approved by MHDC.**
 - c. **Plans for comment on tonight** –
 - 19/00287/GPDE – **3 The Leasowes, Bayton DY14 8NA** - **Prior approval for a large home extension.** Cllrs did not wish to make any comments. No comments made.
 - 19/00344/CAN – **Rose Cottage, Bayton DY14 9LZ** – **Undertake works to trees as detailed on application form.** Cllrs did not wish to make any comments. No comments made.
 - d. **Other planning issues** -
 - 18/01682/FUL – **Land at (Os 7042 7416), Clows Top – Access track (Retrospective)** – to note contents of letter sent by WCC to MHDC regarding this application. It was agreed by all PC should contact WCC Solicitor to alert him to the accidents and the contents of the letter that WCC have sent in response to the consultation and to draw his attention to the Affidavit within the application which the PC and local residents dispute.

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12. Road Report:

- a. **Lengthsman** – List of jobs given.
- b. **Problems to report** – Beach Hay crossroads visibility splays need cutting back, Clerk to action.
- c. **WCC Highways visit to Parish** (circulated) – Visit was very useful to high lite longstanding issues.
- d. **B4202 TO BE CLOSED 19TH MARCH FOR 5 DAYS FROM CLOWS TOP TO GREAT WITLEY JUNCTION**

13. Policies to be considered for adoption as circulated -

- a. **Public Question Time Policy**
- b. **Communications Policy** .
- c. **Media Policy**
- d. **Grievance & Disciplinary Policy**

It was agreed by all Chairman, Cllr and Clerk will meet to review these policies before next meeting.

14. Correspondence for information – CALC Training dates, Election information, MHDC Planning training dates.

15. Clerks report on Urgent Decisions since last meeting –

31st January 2019 – Complaint from resident regarding rubbish in garden. The matter has been reported to MHDC Street Team.

11th March - Severne Green Hedge, Bayton – Chairman and Clerk met with Housing Association (HA) and Ground works contractor. It was agreed the hedge will be cut in autumn by contractors working for Housing Association, to include the holly tree by noticeboard. It was suggested PC ask HA if they wish to cut grass in future, Clerk to make enquiries.

26th February - parking issues in Bayton – Clerk meeting with Housing Association on 13th March.

16. Councillors' reports and items for the next agenda. Agenda items – Policies to agree, Elections 2nd May 2019, Annual Parish Meeting 14th May 2019, it was confirmed this will start at 7.45pm. Cllr suggested setting up a website for villages, costs to be given at April meeting.

17. Date of next meeting: - TUESDAY 9TH APRIL 2019 – 8.00pm BAYTON VILLAGE HALL

18. Meeting closed 8.56pm.

Signed----- Date 9th April 2019

Chairman

Residents concerns - 18/01682/FUL (item 10d on agenda) – MHDC had consulted with WCC regarding the access track, a letter from WCC dated 1st March 2019 was now published on MHDC website. The contents of the letter stated no accidents, this is totally incorrect, fire, police and air ambulance have been in attendance many times, one very serious accident resulting in life changing injuries to the driver. Clerk to contact Highways at Shropshire Council to see if they have a record of accidents. The track over the field was allowed for forestry use but the landowners have put the land up for sale as small plots so traffic would not be forestry. A resident advised PC and residents to write to WCC Solicitor to alert him to the issues regarding this application.

Beach Hay crossroads – Resident stated the visibility splays needed cutting back. Clerk to contact landowners and WCC.

COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

Budget Proposals - Four weeks ago at full council, just after your last meeting, the budget was approved. While the outline of the proposals is well known, there were some significant changes. Various amendments from the Labour group and the 2017 group were tabled for consideration but were unsuccessful. Given that they proposed very minor changes to the budget, they could be taken as an indication that, overall, the budget was acceptable to all parties. There was a notice of motion criticizing the rates of charging for car parking at the Worcester Royal Infirmary, but this was rejected on the grounds that the problem was more one of capacity than exorbitant charging. When the hospital was built, provision for parking was limited to 75% of the numbers expected to need access to the hospital, building in an under-provision for parking.

Southern Link Road phase 4 - Following the news about progress with the Worcestershire Parkway rail station last month, work has recently started on preparing the embankments of the southern link road between the Ketch and Powick roundabouts, for the widening of the causeway to allow the dualling of the road. This has involved removing the vegetation on the south side of the bank, done at this time to avoid the bird nesting season. Following final approval of the government grant of £54.5 million recently, a press briefing was held yesterday, to give details on the project. The construction work will start soon, and completion is expected in 2021. There will be a new separate Carrington Bridge, as well as one halfway along the 1.2 miles of causeway, to accommodate floodwater. The whole section will become four lanes, and the path on the north side will be widened to allow for more walking and cycling. During this year, three bridges will be built over the more northerly sections of the link road, one for farm traffic and the others to allow easier and safer crossing of the road by walkers and cyclists. It is worth noting that this £100 million development of the Southern Link Road will give improved travel times

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from the west to the M5, junction 7, and for the reverse journey, as well as diverting some traffic from driving through the city. Completion of the ring road to the north, while obvious on paper, would need a further sum of around £200 million, and a large number of houses to be built to the north west of the city, to generate many millions of pounds through Section 106 agreements. This is not likely to happen in the next decade, during which time we will be able to assess the benefit to the city itself of the diversion of traffic to the Southern Link Road

School Funding - In the last week there has been national attention on the question of school funding. As a former governor of Tenbury High School and Great Witley Primary, I am familiar with the pressures schools are under and I am sure we would all agree that they should be supported in all feasible ways. Last Thursday, I gave a RE lesson for year 6 pupils at Oldbury Park Primary School in St John's. It was on humanism, and the attention and interest shown by these 11 year olds was impressive. They were all very polite and well disciplined, making it a highly rewarding experience. In two weeks, I am pleased to say that I will be visiting Bayton Primary, to talk to the pupils on a variety of topics. Having observed the school from a distance and read the weekly newsletters, it will be interesting to meet the children and listen to their views. Also last week, the Guardian published a long piece on school funding, giving instances of the sort of measures some schools have had to follow to make ends meet. They wrote *In North Yorkshire, one secondary school is raising funds by holding extra non-uniform days – six a year, at the end of each half term – potentially earning an additional £3,000 for the school's funds.* Guardian readers clearly know that it costs each pupil a pound a day to be allowed not to wear a school uniform! I did not...*Hours are being reduced at both the start and end of the day to save money. In Birmingham many primary school pupils are being sent home at lunchtime on Fridays; pupils at one Kent grammar school are being asked to come in late one morning.* I do not understand why money is saved if pupils attend for a shorter week. Staff are all bound to be on full time contracts, heating costs would be barely altered, and the amount of variable costs in paper and pens saved would be trivial. We know that school pupil numbers are going up, but how much more does it cost to teach a class of 30 over one of 29? I don't normally make political points, but in this crucial area, I would advise clear thinking and fact based reporting. Oldbury Park Primary School seemed to me to lack nothing in resources or staff and was smart, well supplied with materials, and apparently very successful. I hope it is typical of Worcestershire schools, and that I will be equally impressed by Bayton Primary.

Cllr Ken Pollock, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL50 2BZ 12.03.19