

# Welsh Newton & Llanrothal Group Parish Council

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Group Parish Council,  
Held online via Zoom – due to the Coronavirus Pandemic  
On Thursday 11th February 2021  
At 7.30pm**

**Present:** Councillors: Mr. Craig Bligh (Chairman); Mr. Steve Wilkes, Mr. Martin Barter, Mr. K. Simmons, Mr. W. Manzoor, Ms. D. Clarke and Ms. Elissa Swinglehurst

**In attendance:** Mrs. Emma Thomas – Parish Clerk

**Public:** 3

**1. To receive and accept apologies for absence**

None

**2. To receive any declarations of interest or written applications for dispensation from Councillors on agenda items**

None

**3. To note the recording of meetings.**

The Chair read a summary on the recording of meetings – the full statement is included in Appendix 1

**4. To agree and sign the minutes of The Group Parish Council meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

The minutes were APPROVED and duly signed by the Chair.

**5. The welcome Jeanette Cohen-Brand to the meeting and receive brief information on the Census 2021 data collection**  
Jeanette Cohen-Brand was not present so the item will be deferred.

**6. Public Question Time**

The following items were RAISED:

- People are collecting wood from the Common using tractors and trailers. Are they allowed to?

**7. Reports**

**7.1 Ward Cllrs report & Q & A time - Appendix 2**

The Ward Cllrs report was NOTED. The key issue within was the cancellation of the Western Bypass and Southern Link Road projects.

**7.2 A brief report on the situation of the River Wye and phosphate levels.**

It was REPORTED the Cllr Swinglehurst is meeting with MP's tomorrow to discuss this further.

**8. Common**

**8.1 To consider an update on the survey on the future management of the Common**

It was REPORTED that alterations have been made following the last circulation. The final draft of the survey will be circulated once more for Cllrs to approve via email. It was AGREED that the clerk could then send it out.

**9. Planning**

**9.1 To note planning application approved / refused by Herefordshire Council since the last meeting**

The following table was NOTED

Date	App. No.	Description	PC Comment	HC Decision
08.10.20	202839	Gwenherrion Farm, Welsh Newton, Monmouth, NP25 5RR Removal of existing agricultural buildings and replacing with new steel frame buildings.	Support	Approved with conditions
12.11.20	203506	Laurel Cottage, Welsh Newton, Monmouth, NP25 5RT Proposed 2 storey rear extension, new garage, garden room and play area.	Support	Approved with conditions

**9.2 To consider planning applications for determination by Herefordshire Council**

**9.2.1 204501 - Pleck Farm, C1239 From A466 To Hazelfield House, Welsh Newton, Herefordshire, NP25 5RG**

Proposed conversion of a agricultural building into a single residential dwelling, the creation of a new access, and associated works.

It was RESOLVED to support this application for the following reasons:

It is compliant with Core Strategy RA3 and RA5

It is compliant with NDP Policies WNL1 – re-use of buildings; WNL4 – sensitivity of conversion; WNL8 – Conversion of Rural Buildings to Residential Use.

It is requested that external lighting is kept to a minimum.

An emphasis on biodiversity net gain/mitigation would be welcomed.

### 9.3 To consider next steps in formulating an Emergency Planning Policy

It was AGREED that the clerk should re-circulate the Peterstow PC policy for consideration in March.

### 9.4 To consider whether to undertake an NDP Review

It was RESOLVED that the clerk should seek three quotations from NDP consultants with a view to further considering the matter in March.

## 10. Finance

### 10.1 To note the February Finance report and bank balances – Appendix 3

The clerk REPORTED that finances were healthy and remained under-spent against budget. The report was APPROVED as evidence of budget monitoring and bank reconciliation.

### 10.2 To consider the following invoices for payment:

10.2.1 Clerk's February Salary

10.2.2 Clerk's February expenses £8.70

10.2.3 Autela Payroll Services £48.24

10.2.4 Terry Griffiths January Roads Maintenance as agreed £447.60 and £294 = total £741.60

10.2.5 Terry Griffiths Grit bin refills £510

The above invoices were APPROVED for payment.

## 11. Lengthsman and footpaths

### 11.1 To consider work to be carried out by the lengthsman

The following items were NOTED:

- Clear the grips along the U71223

### 11.2 To consider work to be undertaken on the parish footpaths

None

*Cllr Debbie Clarke and one parishioner left the meeting*

### 11.3 To consider the lengthsman tenders received for 2021-22

It was NOTED that Terry Griffiths had expressed an interest in the contract and will have his costs ready in time for the March meeting. It was AGREED to defer this item until then.

### 11.4 To consider a response to Herefordshire Council regarding Upper Cwm Farm footpath LO11

It was AGREED to support the suggested rerouting of the path by Herefordshire Council.

## 12. Highways

### 12.1 To consider road issues for reporting to Balfour Beatty

It was REQUESTED that Herefordshire Council provide the lengthsman with salt.

### 12.2 To consider an update on installing white gates (traffic calming) on the approach to the village

It was REPORTED that a site visit is planned and will be reported on in March.

## 13. Defibrillator

### 13.1 To consider an update on the installation of the defibrillator

It was REPORTED that the defibrillator is due to be installed tomorrow. It was AGREED that training should be arranged once the Covid situation has eased.

### 13.2 To consider an update on the installation of a defibrillator on the Common

It was REPORTED that the machine has yet to be purchased.

## 14. Environment

### 14.1 To consider an update on promoting wild flowers on the wide verges in the parishes

It was NOTED that the report is being compiled in preparation for discussion in March.

### 15. To consider the notice boards.

The clerk REPORTED that she had not heard back from the lengthsman.

## 16. Correspondence

- The clerk REPORTED that she had received correspondence from parishioners with regards the recording of meetings – this has been dealt with under item 3.

- The remaining grant funding for the drainage projects has now been approved. This means that 100% funding can be claimed for all of the drainage issues submitted. The lengthsman has been told.

## 17. To consider the outstanding actions

The following item was NOTED

Date	Minute	Item	Status
10.09.20	10.4	Footpath over deregistered Common by Newton Lodge	Clerk has now received the forms and will liaise with Cllr Steve Wilkes – underway. Clerk has received a brief update from HC PROW Officer. Cllr Steve Wilkes has filled in most forms – and the clerk the rest. The form has been submitted to HC.

### 18. To consider items for the next meeting – No discussion

None

*One parishioner left the meeting*

19. Date of next meeting – 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021  
NOTED

The meeting closed at 21.00

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

11/3/21