

Welsh Newton & Llanrothal Group Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Group Parish Council,
Held at Welsh Newton Village Hall
On Thursday 12th January 2023
At 7.30pm

This meeting may be recorded under Standing Order 31

Present: Councillors: Mr. Craig Bligh (Chairman), Mr. Martin Barter, Ms. Elissa Swinglehurst, Mr. Waqas Manzoor, Mr. Keith Simmons and Mrs. Rhiannon Marks

In attendance: Mrs. Emma Thomas – Parish Clerk

Public: 4

1. To receive and accept apologies for absence

Apologies were RECEIVED and accepted from Cllr. Ms. Debbie Clarke

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

None

3. To consider the minutes of the Meeting held on 8th December 2022.

The minutes were APPROVED and duly signed by the Chair.

4. Public Question Time

The following items were RAISED:

- What was the procedure for a parishioner to clear branches off an over-hanging tree near his property on the Common?
*The parishioner needs to contact Mr Oliver Kaye – Tree Officer at Herefordshire Council - as there is a Tree Preservation Order on all trees on the Common. He also needs to contact Mrs. Helen Beale – Commons Officer at Herefordshire Council – in order to receive advice about what to do with any wood that may be felled.
Contact details are as follows: Oliver.Kaye@herefordshire.gov.uk and HBeale@herefordshire.gov.uk*

5. Welsh Newton Common

5.1 To consider feedback on installation of the slow down signs on the Common

The clerk REPORTED that she had received a quote from Chillipepper Signs of £634 + VAT and although approval had been given to purchase the signs, she felt, in light of the cost, that it needed to come back to the PC for confirmation of approval. It was RESOLVED that the clerk should ask the company to revisit the quote.

5.2 To consider an update on communication with parish councils with un-owned (Section 9) commons and next steps

The clerk confirmed that she had received notification that many of the Parish Councils contacted would consider the communication at their January meetings. She had two responses so far which would be considered at the February meeting.

6. Planning

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

None

6.2 To consider the following planning application for determination by Herefordshire Council:

6.2.1 224102 - Land at The Garage, Welsh Newton Common, NP25 5RN

Proposed demolition of redundant buildings and erection of new dwelling.

It was RESOLVED to SUPPORT this application on the condition that due attention is given to energy saving building methods and external lighting is kept to a minimum. It was NOTED that no consultation had taken place with the Parish Council as claimed in the application.

7. Reports

7.1 Ward Cllrs report & Q & A time - Appendix 1

NOTED

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

Meetings are continuing.

8. Finance

8.1 To note the January Finance report and bank balances – Appendix 2

The clerk REPORTED that finances remained on track. The report was APPROVED and signed as evidence of budget monitoring.

8.2 To consider the following invoices for payment:

8.2.1 Clerk's January Salary

8.2.2 Clerk's January expenses £29.85 – previously circulated

8.2.3 Terry Griffiths – drainage works and general maintenance works as agreed £1,040.00

8.2.4 HMRC PAYE £377.11

8.2.5 Autela Payroll Services £52.31

The above invoices were APPROVED for payment by BACS

9. Lengthsman and footpaths

9.1 To consider work to be carried out by the lengthsman

The clerk REPORTED that she had asked the lengthsman to repair a broken stile on LO4 that had been brought to her attention. It was REPORTED that this has been fixed by Mr. Martin Jones. He was thanked for this.

10. Highways

10.1 To consider road issues for reporting to Balfour Beatty

The following items were RAISED:

- Drains at Small Acre are still over-flowing
- Debris by the bus shelter on the A466 still needs clearing

It was NOTED that the SID's needed the data downloading. It was AGREED that it would be ideal if a few interested parishioners could help with maintenance of the SID's. It was AGREED that the clerk would investigate the costs of an annual maintenance plan with the manufacturer of the SID's for consideration at the February meeting.

10.2 To consider road speed on the Lower Llanrothal Lane

It was REPORTED that vehicles are travelling too fast along this stretch of road – delivery vans in particular. It was AGREED that the Council would purchase two slow down signs to be erected by the lengthsman at locations to be agreed by parishioners.

11. Defibrillators

11.1 To consider an update on the purchase of a cabinet and the installation of the defibrillator in Llanrothal

It was RESOLVED that the clerk should purchase a cabinet like the one at Welsh Newton Village Hall, in order that installation can proceed quickly. It was AGREED that parishioners would try to raise £300 as a contribution towards this. Mr. Martin Jones was thanked for his generosity in having the defibrillator installed on his property and for offering to help finance the purchase of the machine.

12. War Memorial

12.1 To consider an update on upgrading the area around the war memorial

It was REPORTED That the PCC would be shown the plans for the area for their thoughts. A quote for the works will be sought from the lengthsman. It was AGREED that Cllr Swinglehurst would approach people to see if they would assist with the moving of the wildflowers when the works started.

12.2 To consider and approve the design and installation of an interpretation board.

It was REPORTED that the clerk's contact is happy to look into missing information on the names of those who lost their lives in WW1.

12.3 To consider the quotes received to upgrade the war memorial

It was REPORTED that two quotes have now been received – a third is awaited. It was RESOLVED to wait for the third quote.

13. Correspondence

- Herefordshire Council Planning Department response to query regarding Section 38 agreement - NOTED
- Planning Committee Meeting – 18th January 2023 – to discuss application 222020. *No-one from the Parish Council is available to attend but the Ward Cllr will write a report detailing the issues surrounding this application.*

14. To consider the outstanding actions and updates

None

15. To consider items for the next meeting – No discussion

Networks of communication to be added to the Emergency Plan

16. Date of next meeting – 9th February 2023

NOTED

The meeting closed at 20.41

Signed: _____

Dated: _____

9/2/23