

# Welsh Newton & Llanrothal Group Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Group Parish Council,  
Held at Welsh Newton Village Hall  
On Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2021  
At 7.30pm

*This meeting may be recorded under Standing Order 3i*

**Present:** Councillors: Mr. Craig Bligh (Chairman), Mr. Steve Wilkes, Mr. Keith Simmons, Mr. Waqas Manzoor and Ms. Elissa Swinglehurst

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

**Public:** 9

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

Apologies were RECEIVED and ACCEPTED from Cllr: Mr. Martin Barter

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

Cllrs: Mr. Steve Wilkes and Mr. Waqas Manzoor signed a DPI against item 7 and signed the Register of Interest book.

**3. To agree and sign the minutes of The Group Parish Council meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> July 2021**

The minutes of both meetings were APPROVED and duly signed by the Chair.

**4. Public Question Time**

The following item was RAISED:

- Could a parishioner tidy up the bus shelter? Thanks were given to the parishioner for her community mindedness and her offer was warmly accepted.

**5. Planning**

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

The following applications were NOTED

**Planning application log**

Date	App. No.	Description	PC Comment	HC Decision
10.12.20	203760/1	Foldyard Bams Adjacent Pembridge Castle, Welsh Newto Proposed change of use of 5 barns to residential with associated garaging & Listed Building Consent	Comments	Approved with conditions
14.01.21	203907	Land at Woodside Stables, From Great Hall Road To St Woolstons Road, Welsh Newton, NP25 5RT Proposed new dwelling.	Object	Approved with conditions
14.01.21	204346	Land adjacent to Steepways, Welsh Newton, NP25 5RT Proposed development of two dwellings.	Object	Approved with conditions
20.05.21	210588	Oaklands House, Llanrothal, Monmouth, NP25 5QJ Installation of a clean burn high efficiency solid biomass wood burning stove. The work will involve the provision of an ICS insulated metal chimney which will terminate just below the level of the existing roof ridge.	Support	Approved with conditions

*One parishioner joined the meeting*

**5.2 To consider the following planning applications for determination by Herefordshire Council**

**5.2.1 213084 - Old Shop, Manson, Monmouth, Herefordshire NP25 5RD**

Erection of timber outbuilding/ workshop.

It was RESOLVED to support this application on condition that it is not used for residential use in the future.

**6. Reports**

**6.1 Ward Cllrs report & Q & A time - Appendix 1**

The report was NOTED. It was further reported that the budget consultation was now underway.

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

It was REPORTED that the next Management Plan meeting will be on the 27<sup>th</sup> September 2021. Lots of groups are undertaking volunteer testing.

*One parishioner joined the meeting*

*Cllrs: Mr. Steve Wilkes and Mr. Waqas Manzoor left the meeting*

## **7. Welsh Newton Common**

### **7.1 To consider the Ownership of Welsh Newton Common**

It was RESOLVED to meet with the HALC recommended solicitor via Zoom at a cost of £200 + VAT per hour to discuss options and issues. It was AGREED that the clerk will circulate a list of questions to be posed to the solicitor, in order that Cllrs can add or amend, before they are sent off. It was AGREED that a couple of Councillors should attend the meeting alongside the clerk.

### **7.2 To confirm that the Parish Council is a competent Section 45 authority empowered to act as the owner of the Common would to prevent unlawful activity on it.**

It was CONFIRMED that the Parish Council is a competent Section 45 authority empowered to act if it chooses to. It has the "power but not the duty" to do so.

### **7.3 To consider the letter received regarding planning decisions on the Common and the NDP Review**

It was NOTED that the PC have recently held discussions regarding a review of the NDP. Until the Core Strategy has finished being reviewed, the NDP review cannot begin.

*It was AGREED to take item 12 next.*

## **12. Correspondence**

- Information regarding the intention to seek Judicial Review - it was confirmed that this information has been received and will be considered at future meetings.
- HALC Training schedule
- Various Talk Community updates
- An update on drainage issues at Studland

*All Parishioners left the meeting*

*Mr. Terry Griffiths – Parish Lengthsman joined the meeting*

*Cllrs: Mr. Steve Wilkes and Mr. Waqas Manzoor re-joined the meeting*

## **8. Finance**

### **8.1 To note the September Finance report and bank balances – Appendix 2**

The clerk REPORTED that finances were healthy for the period. The clerk confirmed that an external audit would be required this year at a cost of £200. The report was APPROVED and signed as evidence of budget monitoring and bank reconciliation.

### **8.2 To consider the following invoices for payment:**

- 8.2.1 Clerk's September Salary
- 8.2.2 Clerk's September expenses £158.64 – previously circulated
- 8.2.3 HMRC PAYE £311.20

The above invoices were APPROVED for payment by BACS

### **8.3 To note the following payments made under Clerks Delegated Authority**

- 8.3.1 Autela Payroll Services (as noted in July) £50.40
  - 8.3.2 Clerk's August Salary
- NOTED

## **9. Lengthsman and footpaths**

### **9.1 To consider work to be carried out by the lengthsman**

The draft annual maintenance plan was considered. It was RESOLVED to approve the plan for the rest of the financial year. It was confirmed that all except two drainage projects had been completed – the remaining ones being Small Acre and Newton Pitch. It was AGREED that once the date of the Newton Pitch project was finalised, the PC would draw up a letter informing residents of the 2 day highway closure – for circulation by Cllrs. It was AGREED that the closure could take place between the hours of 9.30 and 3.30 each day. It was confirmed that an extension had been agreed on reclaiming the grant money for these two projects. The clerk confirmed that there was £2573 of grant money left to claim. It was confirmed that all outstanding specific tasks had now been completed. It was NOTED that further work was needed to flatten the Market Path. The lengthsman will provide a quote for approval for this work.

It was AGREED, that moving forwards, the lengthsman would let the clerk know dates for works so that Cllrs could attend and review the works being undertaken if they wished. It was further AGREED that the clerk will post all job sheets and photos on the website.

### **9.2 To consider work to be undertaken on the parish footpaths**

As above – it was AGREED that only 2 days on the maintenance plan were needed.

## **10. Highways**

### **10.1 To consider road issues for reporting to Balfour Beatty**

It was NOTED that the repair of the Llanrothal road has still not been completed but looked likely to start by the 27<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

### **11. To consider upgrading the area around the War Memorial**

The clerk REPORTED that she had received no submissions from anyone with ideas for an upgrade plan. It was AGREED to ask the lengthsman to cut the hedge right back when he undertook his clearance of the area. It was further NOTED that all the drains along the A466 need clearing in the autumn once the leaves fall. The lengthsman AGREED to undertake this.

### **13. To consider the outstanding actions**

None to report on

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

Clerk's Annual Review

**15. Date of next meeting – 14<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

NOTED - although this may be postponed a week to allow the PC to be quorate

*The meeting closed at 8.55pm*

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



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

14/10/21