

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 8th April 2021
At 7.30pm

This meeting may be recorded under Standing Order 3!

Present: Councillors: Mr. Steve Wilkes (Chairman), Mr. Martin Barter, Mr. K. Simmons, Mr. W. Manzoor and Ms. Elissa Swinglehurst

In attendance: Mrs. Emma Thomas – Parish Clerk

Public: 1

1. To receive and accept apologies for absence

Apologies were RECEIVED and accepted from Cllr. Craig Bligh.

2. To receive any declarations of interest or written applications for dispensation from Councillors on agenda items
None

One parishioner joined the meeting

3. To agree and sign the minutes of The Group Parish Council meeting held on 11th March 2021
The minutes were APPROVED and duly signed by the Chair.

Cllr Ms. D. Clarke and a further parishioner joined the meeting

4. Public Question Time

The following items were raised:

- Works continue to take place on the Common by people with no rights to undertake them
- Trees are being taken down and areas cleared
- Commons need managing

5. Reports

5.1 Ward Cllrs report & Q & A time - Appendix 1
NOTED

5.2 A brief report on the situation of the River Wye and phosphate levels.
It was REPORTED that voluntary testing of the water ways was taking place.

6. Common

6.1 To consider the results of the survey on the future management of the Common and next steps

The clerk REPORTED that 15 valid surveys were returned out of 43 – Appendix 2. There was not enough of a response or agreement for the Parish Council to become involved in a Management Plan. It was AGREED that Parish Council ownership should be added as an agenda item in May.

7. Planning

7.1 To note planning application approved / refused by Herefordshire Council since the last meeting
None

7.2 To consider next steps in formulating an Emergency Planning Policy

The clerk REPORTED that she had had a couple responses from parishioners. It was AGREED that the clerk should form a table of assistance available to be circulated amongst the Council and updated when necessary.

7.3 To consider a response to Llangarron's Regulation 16 NDP Consultation

It was AGREED to make no comment.

8. Finance

8.1 To consider the following invoices for payment:

- 8.1.1 Clerk's April Salary
- 8.1.2 Clerk's April expenses £5.84
- 8.1.3 Autela Payroll Services £41.76
- 8.1.4 Terry Griffiths – Drainage - £222

The above invoices were APPROVED for payment

8.2 To consider upgrading to a .gov email address.

It was AGREED to upgrade to a .gov email address.

9. Lengthsman and footpaths

9.1 To consider work to be carried out by the lengthsman

The clerk will remind him that signs need installing on the track leading to the Common.

9.2 To consider work to be undertaken on the parish footpaths

None

9.3 To consider signing the Lengthsman Contract for 2021-22 with Balfour Beatty

It was RESOLVED to sign the contract.

10. Highways

10.1 To consider road issues for reporting to Balfour Beatty

The following items were RAISED:

Potholes between The Gables and White House, Llancloudy.

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

It was AGREED to defer this item

10.3 To consider an update on the grant-funded drainage works

The clerk REPORTED that she was chasing up the invoices that need dating before the 31st March, for works completed. She confirmed that £8092 of grant money had been claimed and received already.

10.4 To consider the highway closure of the Welsh Newton to Llanrothal road.

It was REPORTED that Cllr John Harrington – Cabinet Member for Highways – has requested that this is brought forward for undertaking early in 2021-22 as an emergency. He is also requesting that the legal contracts team revisit the possibility that the PC can pay for the works in the first instance and then be refunded by HC at a later date. It was REPORTED that cracks were appearing across the tarmac.

11. Defibrillator

11.1 To consider an update on the registration of the Welsh Newton Hall machine

It was REPORTED that the clerk is waiting for details from the machine before this can be completed.

12. Environment

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

It was AGREED that Sue Parkinson would email suggestions to the clerk for one-cut verges throughout the parishes.

13. To consider the notice boards.

The clerk REPORTED that she had yet to hear back from the lengthsman.

14. Correspondence

- Free Cycle Parking and Installation.

It was AGREED that the clerk would obtain further detail about installing racks at the Village Hall.

- Correspondence had been received from a parishioner with queries that had been answered.

15. To consider the outstanding actions

None

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

Ownership of The Common

17. Date of next meeting – 13th May 2021 – venue TBC

NOTED – this meeting will be preceded by the Annual Parish Meetings

The meeting closed at 20.27

Signed: _____



Dated _____

20/5/21