

WALFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Catherine Murray. Rose Cottage, Coughton, Ross on Wye, Herefordshire, HR9 5SF.

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Minutes of the Full Council meeting held in Bishopswood Village Hall At 7.30pm on Wednesday 8th April 2015

Present: Frank Myers - Chairman

Councillors: Dave Berry, Shane Carlson, Karen Chinn, Simeon Cole, Eric Drummond, Heather Evans, Luke Freeman, Angus McIntosh, Terry Snow, Marc Thomas.

In attendance: Clerk Catherine Murray.

1. **Apologies:** Sandra Cole (Family commitment)
2. **Casual Vacancy:** The casual vacancy that has arisen, due to the sad death of Councillor John Daniels was noted; and the clerk confirmed that because of the proximity of the Election, the vacancy will not be advertised.
3. **Declarations:** Cllr Simeon Cole declared an interest in item 8.1e and Cllr Luke Freeman in item 8.1f
4. **Minutes:** The minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 25/02/15 were unanimously approved.
5. **A verbal report was given and questions put to:** Walford Localities Steward – Kevin Williams, who reported that a significant amount of re-surfacing work is taking place in the area and apologised for any inconvenience. Specific mention was made of the re-surfacing work on the Goodrich side of Kerne Bridge and a Cllr queried why this stretch of highway was being prioritised.
6. **Public Participation Session:** A member of the public asked who to contact if she wished to have a tree on her land felled, which is adjacent to the Wye Valley Walk. She was told to contact Herefordshire Council Rights of Way department for advice.
7. **Finance:**
 - 7.1 *The bank reconciliation, Finance Appendix A and bank statements for March were signed.*
 - 7.2 **Payments:** It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments:
 - a) Can Do Crew
 - b) Village News subscription
 - c) Clerk hours and expenses for March.

An invoice from Lonsdale DS, for printing and posting the Parish newsletter had been presented since the publication of the agenda; payment was authorised by the PC, as the cost of the newsletter had previously been approved in the annual budget.
 - 7.3 Confirmation from Grant Thornton Accountants of Audit date was noted as 26th June.
8. **Planning: Note:** Applicants and the public were invited to speak.

Cllrs Simeon Cole and Luke Freeman left the room whilst the applications in which they had declared an interest were considered.

 - 8.1 **Planning Applications:** Planning Appendix B was noted and it was **RESOLVED** to put forward the following comments:
 - a) **P150509 – Hazelhurst Nursing Home, Bishopswood, Herefordshire, HR9 5QX.**
The applicant spoke about the proposals and members of the public expressed their concerns.
Comments: The majority of the Parish Council supported the application on condition that:
 - Specific attention is paid to light pollution from the new EMI unit.
 - Sympathetic materials are used in construction, to be more in keeping with the location of the site in an AONB.
 - An appropriate traffic survey is carried out.
 - Careful consideration is given to the potential loss of amenity for those living in close proximity to the site.
 - b) **P150736 – Lodge Farm, Deepdean, Ross-On-Wye, Herefordshire, HR9 5SQ.**
Comments: There were no objections to the application.
 - c) **P150538 – 1 Priory Lea, Walford, Ross-On-Wye, Herefordshire, HR9 5RT.**
Comments: There were no objections to the application.
 - d) **P150618 – Wild Cherries, The Dean Road, Bishopswood, Herefordshire, HR9 5RA.**
Comments: There were no objections to the application.
 - e) **P150525 – Porters Lodge, Coughton, Ross-On-Wye, Herefordshire, HR9 5ST.**
Comments: There were no objections to the application.
 - f) **P150508 – The Old Wash House, The Dean Road, Bishopswood, Herefordshire, HR9 5QZ.**
Comments: The majority of Parish Councillors supported the application, on the condition that there is no intended future use as a separate dwelling.

9. **Highways / Rights of Way / AONB:** (*Appendix D contains Councillors Highways & RsOW Reports.*)
- 9.1 Lengthsman and Rights of Way
- a) Reports from Officers. The Annual report has been revised for submission to Herefordshire Council.
- b) **Work orders:** Instruction for the Lengthsman to clear the footway from the Vine Tree to Walford School was approved.
- c) **Lengthsman Annual Plan & RsOW Annual Report – It was unanimously RESOLVED to re-submit the revised Annual Plan to Balfour Beatty.**
- 9.2 **Forest Green – Plan for maintenance:** (Postponed until the next meeting)
- 9.3 **Daycroft Lane Flooding:** The Clerk read out an e mail from Joel Hockenhull at Balfour Beatty, which gave no definitive information on a timescale for the feasibility study to take place; The clerk was asked to keep chasing this issue, with the help of the Chairman. <<**Action Clerk**>>
- 9.4 **Signage for HGVs on Bulls / Leys and Howle Hills:** The PC considered the quotation from Balfour Beatty to supply and install the signs (£1,600 including installation) and two alternative quotations of (£450 & £500 respectively – not including installation); and it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve expenditure necessary to purchase the required HGV signage from a source other than Balfour Beatty, in order to get best value for money; the Lengthsman will be asked to price for the installation.
- 9.5 **Property boundary at the bottom of Bulls Hill:** The clerk was asked to write to Herefordshire Council in the strongest terms regarding the apparent boundary infringement at this property. <<**Acton Clerk**>>
10. **Parish Council meetings:** The new meetings schedule was noted.
11. **Parish Projects:** To receive updates and discuss further action.
- 11.1 **Village Agent Scheme:** No further update.
- 11.2 **Walford Links:** Cllr Carlson has met with ex-Cllr Heath and carried out a hand-over. Cllr McIntosh offered to help with this project in the future.
- 11.3 **Kerne Bridge Canoe Launch Site - Community asset transfer & management of WCs:** There has been no further progress.
- 11.4 **War Memorials – grant applications:** Cllr Berry and the Clerk explained that the Howle Hill application has been sent to and received by War Memorials Trust and the Walford application is to be submitted soon. <<**Action Cllr Berry**>>
12. **Information and correspondence**
- 12.1 Correspondence Appendix / Clerks Report / HALC Information corner were noted.
- 12.2 **Councillors reports on local matters:** The pot holes in Hom Green have been fixed. A Right of Way is blocked from Tree tops to Howle Hill (Cllr Cole is to confirm which one to Cllr Evans) A Cllr wanted to know more about the Core Strategy document. A large wooden building has appeared in the backyard of a property at Mark's Well.
- 12.3 **Election:** It was noted that Election nomination papers should be submitted by 4 pm on 9th April.
- 12.4 **Responses required to correspondence received since the last meeting:** None outstanding.
13. **Brief public response session:** A member of the public asked whether Bishopswood War Memorial would also be considered for restoration; the clerk explained that it was the 1st World War Memorials which were being prioritised, as the process started in the centenary year, 2014.
14. **Items for next meeting agenda:** Bishopswood War Memorial, Forest Green maintenance, Howle Hill Nursery.
15. **Next meeting:** 13/05/15 Full Council @ 7.30pm at Bishopswood Village Hall.
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Signed: Frank Myers

Date: 13/05/15