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# Humber, Ford & Stoke Prior Group Parish Council

## Minutes of the meeting of the Group Parish Council held on Wednesday 10 September 2014 at 7.30pm in Stoke Prior Village Hall

Present: Cllr Alan Bathurst  
Cllr Mrs Jenny Ellerton  
Cllr William Jackson  
Cllr Richard Thomas  
Cllr Kenneth Bemand  
Cllr Michael Hubbard  
Cllr Peter Lefroy-Owen  
Cllr Rodney Thompson

Officer in attendance: Mr Philip Brown (Clerk).

### 78/14 Apologies for absence

*Received:* apologies for absence from Cllr Mrs Jane Hinton, Cllr Mrs Margaret Bemand, Cllr Mrs Steph Wilson and District Cllr Jeremy Millar.

### 79/14 Declaration of interests and dispensations

- (a) No declarations of interest were made.
- (b) No applications for dispensations under Standing Order 25 were received.

### 80/14 Minutes of the last meeting

*Resolved:* to approve the minutes of the Meeting held on 16 July 2014, subject to correction of typographical errors in Cllr Thompson's name and in minute 65(h).

### 81/14 Matters for report arising from the minutes

None.

### 82/14 Chairman's Announcements

- (a) *Reported:* The new owner of *The Lamb Inn*, Mr Terry Windmill, was undertaking complete renovation and repair works to the pub, including a completely new interior, bar, kitchen and cellars. In view of these extensive works, it was not yet possible for Mr Windmill to give an opening date. There was a list of volunteers ready to assist with cleaning, tidying and decoration when the works were finished.
- (b) *Reported:* Another highly successful and well-attended Risbury Show had been held on 6 September.

### 83/14 Public participation

No members of the public were present.

### 84/14 Clerk's report

*Received:* a report from the Clerk (Minutes Annexe 84/14) covering: the 426 Bus and alternatives; Highways maintenance, road signs and rights of way; Electronic planning applications; The Lamb Inn.

*Noted:* Balfour Beatty had repaired nearly all outstanding serious road defects, although it was unknown when Wickton Lane would get its promised major repair. There were many footpath and bridleway defects which it was believed Balfour Beatty would be turning to next, although it was noted that it was the responsibility of landowners to repair broken stiles and gates on rights-of-way.

*Noted:* The Clerk, Cllr Millar and several residents had had an extensive meeting/site visit with Balfour Beatty officers on 5 September to inspect chronic flooding sites in Stoke Prior. All road drains had now been jetted, and some improvements to road drainage had been agreed.

### 85/14 Changes to local bus services

- (a) *Noted:* the Clerk's Report (section 1) on the new timetable for the 426 bus as from 31 August, announced on 31 July, which effectively removed the bus-link with Leominster. No response or acknowledgement had been received to the Council's letter of complaint of 8 August about the misleading information published in May about the proposals for the 426 service, although Cllr Millar had responded saying that this was being looked into. The Clerk had emailed all residents asking for offers of lifts for those now left without a means of getting to Leominster. The sustainability of both this

community and Bodenham and their future growth were reduced by the removal of the bus service to Leominster.

- (b) **Resolved:** That the Clerk ask once again, through Cllr Millar, for a meeting between councillors, the Transport department and the Cabinet member responsible for transport, to include Bodenham parish.

#### 86/14 District Councillor's report

*Reported:* District Councillor Millar's report for September 2014 would be received and circulated in due course.

#### 87/14 Standing Orders: proposed amendment

- (a) *Received:* a proposal to amend Standing Order 7(b) and adopt a protocol concerning the recording filming and broadcasting of meetings (Minutes Annexe 87/14).
- (b) *Noted:* requiring the press or public to obtain permission from the Chairman before recording or filming, partly to prevent clandestine recording, would contravene the right to do this under the new legislation. However, the proposed protocol included a request for those intending to record or film to notify the Clerk beforehand.
- (c) *Proposed and seconded:* to adopt the amendment to Standing Order 7(b) and protocol subject to the amendments that paragraph 11 of the protocol should become the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph, and paragraph 8 should say "The Council expects those recording proceedings...".  
Under Standing Order 36(b) the resolution stands adjourned until the next ordinary meeting.

#### 88/14 Planning Committee and planning matters

- (a) Application 142214: Humber Court, Humber – change of use of barn-end from dwelling to holiday-let  
*Noted:* that under Standing Order 32(f) the Council made no comments on this application.
- (b) Application 142326: Humber Court, Humber – Proposal to bag-out the wall with lime  
*Noted:* that under Standing Order 32(f) the Council made no comments on this application.
- (c) Application 141849: Land opposite Old Hall Farm – site for 8 dwellings  
*Noted:* the Council's comments were submitted to Herefordshire Council on 23 July. The agent notified the Clerk on 7 August of correspondence with the Planning Department which confirmed that the applicant intends that the attenuation pond and associated land for water management would be open to the public, allowing a footpath link to be established with the right of-way (SP21). There was as yet no information about when a decision would be made on the application.
- (d) Application 133481: Great Marston Farm – 50kw Wind Turbine  
*Noted:* There was as yet no information about when a decision would be made on the application.

#### 89/14 Neighbourhood Development Plan

- (a) *Received:* unconfirmed minutes of the Steering Committee of 28 July 2014.
- (b) *Received:* an oral report from the meeting of the Steering Committee held on 9 September 2014: A draft of an Issues and Options Consultation document would be prepared by the end of September and distributed to all households in early October for response. Drop-in consultation events were being planned for mid-October. The full reports on the Questionnaire responses from Data Orchard would be published on the website soon, and printed copies also made available. The project timescale was about 2 months behind the original plan, but preparation of the draft Plan for the statutory consultation was still expected to be done by the end of the year. The grant funding for professional advice on this had to be spent by 31 December, under inflexible government rules. The next meeting of the Steering Committee would be on Monday 22 September.
- (c) **Resolved:** to approve expenditure of up to £4849 as per the approved budget for Data Orchard's analysis of and reports on the community questionnaires (est £3379) and for professional planning advice from Community First (Bill Bloxsome) on identifying issues & options and drafting the Plan (est £1470).

#### 90/14 Community Week Committee

- (a) *Received:* Minutes of the meeting held on 5 August 2014.
- (b) **Resolved:** to write to thank the Committee for a very successful Community Week in July 2014.

#### 91/14 General Financial Matters

- (a) *Received:* a report from the RFO (Minutes Annexe 91/14).

*Noted:* A transfer from the current account to the deposit account would not be worthwhile, as the interest rate on the deposit account was low, and all projected income was planned for expenditure within the financial year.

- (b) Resolved: to approve the authorisation of payments as detailed in the RFO report section 3.

#### **92/14 Consultations and surveys**

- (a) Travellers Sites – issues & options

Resolved: to make no response to the Herefordshire Council consultation paper on issues & options for identifying sites for travellers.

- (b) Herefordshire Council budget 2015-16

*Noted:* Cllr Bathurst would be attending the Herefordshire Council budget consultation evening on 1 October 2014.

- (c) West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner Town and Parish Council Survey

*Received:* the survey for completion (Minutes Annexe 92/14c).

**Resolved:** to delegate to the Clerk to submit the Council's response, following discussion of this between the Chairman and PCSO Annette.

#### **93/14 Matters for information and future business**

- (a) *Noted:* circulars sent to the Council:

- (i) Report from Clerk on Ward meeting of Clerks/Chairs and HALC NAM (18/07/14).
- (ii) HALC Information Corner 24 July 2014 (23/07/14).
- (iii) Herefordshire Council budget consultation information (23/07/14).
- (iv) Balfour Beatty Parish Council Newsletter July 2014 (03/08/14).
- (v) Local Councils' Transparency Code consultation summary of responses (07/08/14).
- (vi) Report from Clerk on meeting/parish-walk with Balfour Beatty Local Steward (07/08/14).
- (vii) Code of Conduct briefing meeting for councillors 16 Sept 2014 (08/08/14).
- (viii) Parish Councils and community web-pages briefing (24/08/14).
- (ix) Balfour Beatty Parish Council briefing event 24/25 Sep 2014 (24/08/14).
- (x) HALC Information Corner 20 Aug 2014 (24/08/14).
- (xi) NALC Legal Topic Note on pre-determination (24/08/14).
- (xii) NALC Legal Topic Note on Bribery Act 2010 (24/08/14).
- (xiii) Invitation to Herefordshire Council budget consultation meeting 1 Oct 2014 (24/08/14).
- (xiv) Invitation to Policing meeting 16 October 2014 (24/08/14).
- (xv) Travellers Sites – issues & options consultation paper (24/08/14).
- (xvi) Briefing on Individual Electoral Registration (01/09/14).

- (b) *Noted:* advice from the Clerk on pre-determination of issues by councillors (see circular xi above).

- (c) *Noted:* a report from Cllr Hubbard on concerns over a dead tree outside Ashwood in Stoke Prior, which had been reported to the letting agents.

#### **94/14 Dates of meetings**

*Noted:* dates of future meetings (all at 7.30pm):

Wednesday 19 November 2014 (Risbury Village Hall).

Wednesday 21 January 2015 (Risbury Village Hall).

Wednesday 18 March 2015 (Risbury Village Hall).

Wednesday 20 May 2015 (Annual Meeting) (Stoke Prior Village Hall).

The meeting closed at 9.26pm.

Signed (Chairman) ..... Date .....