



Little Dewchurch Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Little Dewchurch Parish Council held at The Village Hall Committee Room, Little Dewchurch on Tuesday 15th October 2019

No LDPC/AW/052

Councillors Present

Councillor Mr. Philip Williams (Chair)
Councillor Mr. Tom Straker
Councillor Mr. Bob Mason
Councillor Miss. Sue Daynes

Parish Clerk Mrs. Alison Wright

Also Present

Ward Cllr David Summers, Lengthsman Paul Wright and one member of the public.

1.0 Apologies for Absence

There were apologies received from Councillors Jane Lisle, Jo Hawthorne and Florin Tatoi. The Chair welcomed everyone to the Meeting.

2.0 Declarations of Interest & Dispensations

2.1 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made.

2.2 To consider any written applications for dispensation

No written applications had been received

3.0 To Receive, Approve and Sign the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting, held on 17th September 2019, were unanimously confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

4.0 To Receive Reports from:-

4.1 The Ward Councillor: Ward Councillor Summers advised that he had been exchanging e mails with Herefordshire Housing about the parking and access situation in St David's Rise. He would be taking a different route and involving contacts in the Health and Wellbeing Committee at Herefordshire Council. The Ward Cllr was not happy about the answers received so far and would be seeking a further meeting with interested parties to try to progress suggestions.

The Ward Cllr said that he would follow up the issue of possible ownership of the village green in Little Dewchurch with his contact at Herefordshire Council. The Parish Council had not received a reply in spite of phoning and e mailing the Assets Department several times.

The Ward Cllr left the meeting at 7.45 pm.

4.2 Local Police update – bulletins had been circulated when received.

4.3 Locality Steward - not present but bulletins had been received. The Locality Steward had been asked to look at issues raised regarding bus stop flooding, road issues down to the church, Court Close.

5.0 Public Question Time

A resident explained that the parking issues at St David's Rise were still ongoing. The reply from Herefordshire Housing had not been considered to be particularly helpful and there had not been a meeting on site. It was suggested that perhaps funding for a solution could be obtained from

tapping into alternative “funding pots”. The resident thanked the Parish Council for arranging the cutting of the backside of the playing field hedge. There were comments made about the path down to the dog zone which was bumpy and strewn with holes. It would need some filling and possibly compacting with a “whacker plate” machine. Options to possibly build up the level would be given consideration.

6.0 Finance

6.1 Confirmation of Bank Balances

Bank balances were noted as £26278.26 (amount on statement was still including £10000.00 to be cleared from account to HC that they had credited to the PC in error) in the Barclays Community Account, as at the October meeting date. Bank account total includes both Parish Council and Social Committee Fund monies.

The Social Fund Balance held in account £509.73.

6.2 Receipts: Nil

6.3 To agree Invoices for Payment

The payments were approved for payment as per the Payments Listing.

From Parish Council Funds:

Mrs A Wright (salary paid in accordance with contract)	
HM Revenue & Customs (Tax due on salary)	£64.40
Longfield Services (Lengthsman, dog bins etc.)	£115.00
Mr R Simpkins (grass cutting)	£90.00

Payments to be made from Social Committee Funds:

Nil	£0.00
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It was resolved that the payments be approved, proposed by Cllr Williams and seconded by Cllr Straker. Payments to be made were carried.

6.4 To discuss budget and precept request for 2020 – 2021

The Parish Council reviewed the balances and budget for 2020 – 2021. It was agreed that the precept request for 2020 – 2021 should remain as in 2019 – 2020 (£10369.00) as sufficient reserves were held at bank.

6.5 To appoint Minute taker for Meeting on 12th November due to Clerk absence.

It was agreed that a councillor would be appointed as minute taker from those in attendance at the November meeting.

7.0 Roads & Footpaths

7.1 Lengthsman – The Lengthsman was present at the meeting. Grips and gullies would be requiring attention and the grit bin survey was to be carried out. The house for sale at the crossroads towards Bolstone had overgrowth of brambles. Cllr Mason would contact person with hedge-cutter regarding this.

Footpaths would be subject to checks by the Footpath Officer, Cllr Williams.

7.2 To receive Play Area Working Group update

It was reported that all was fine on the Playing Field. The swing was currently in Cllr Williams barn and fitting would be arranged. Caps for bolts on the swings were also required.

8.0 Planning

8.1 To consider response to Planning Applications, as notified, and then determined by Herefordshire Council

There was one new application for comment:

APPLICATION NO & SITE ADDRESS: Planning Consultation - 193178 - Court Farm, New Mills Farm Road, Little Dewchurch, Herefordshire, HR2 6PN

DESCRIPTION: Proposed restoration of cross wing.

GRID REF: OS 353072, 231829

APPLICATION TYPE: Listed Building Consent

The Parish Council discussed the proposals for restoration in application 193178. The Chair had visited the site also. The Parish Council resolved to support the application.

9.0 Tree Warden – update and actions

Cllr Straker updated the meeting regarding the tree planting. The apple trees would be ready from the end of November. Cllr Straker was looking into accessories, stakes and mulch mats etc. He would organise the ordering of requirements. Types of plum and also guelder rose, rowan and bird cherry were all being considered for the green plus Christmas trees. There would be spindles for the drainage area and a gap would be left in the hedge line for machinery access.

10.0 Information Sheet/Correspondence and updates

Content of the Sheet was noted and included:

- Election expenses forms reminder – nil breakdown return required as well as the summary sheet.
- Public Vote for Herefordshire’s Official Flag - Message to Parish Council's
- Children & Young People's Showcase
- Remittance Advice : 18/09/2019 Parish Precept
- Public Green Spaces Grant
- Fastershire Community Meeting
- Power point slides from parish summit held on 20/10/19

- **Update regarding 106 monies including highway works**

The request for designated highways works had been submitted.

- **Climate Emergency – update on initiatives**

Cllr Straker gave an update on initiatives. Three councillors had attended the Zero Carbon Britain presentation. The ideas were to rethink the future and construct a robust technical model showing how a zero carbon Britain could be built. Things such as transport and land use would all need to be rethought, all things being possible using existing technology. It was now up to people to make things happen, looking at things political, cultural and psychological. It was stated that “all people should be looking at their own carbon footprint”.

- **Village Flowers and Village Green – to receive any update plus mowing/strimming**

The bulbs had been planted. The seat had been installed round the tree. A bench would be arriving in the future and the new Information Board was in hand.

- **St David’s Rise – parking and access issues – to receive any update/correspondence**

This was discussed during the Ward Cllr Report and the Open Session.

- **Over 60’s update**

To be updated at a future meeting

- **Sheds and storage options (LDSC and Village Hall)**

Cllr Williams would speak to the Village Hall Committee about where to locate the litter picking shed. Alternative arrangements needed to be found for storage of LDSC items. This would be discussed to arrive at a storage solution.

- **Grit Bins – current provision and possible new purchase**

The current position was that some grit bins were filled and ready, some not so. Cllr Mason and the Lengthsman would arrange to look at this. The one tonne of grit would be requested to be delivered to Cllr Mason as in previous years. The gritting round would be continuing.

- **Community Social Care and help with travel**

This subject formed part of the discussion for the Parish Summit held on September 20th. The Chair had passed the information gathered to Cllr Hawthorne and she was going to try to create an initiative/group to discuss helping people with transport issues (weather etc.) Building “Community Hubs” to help one another was being encouraged.

- **Smart Water**

This would be given consideration at a future meeting.

- **Update on Parish Summit**

Cllr Williams had updated regarding the paperwork for Cllr Hawthorne. There was a drive to put forward things that parishes would like to see happening.

11.0 Matters for the Agenda of the next Meeting

The usual items are all to be on the Agenda for November.

12.0 Confirmation of the Next Meeting Time, Date & Venue

The next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on 12th November 2019 from 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

The Meeting closed at 9.14 pm

Signed.....
(Chairman)

Date 15th October 2019