

Aymestrey Parish Council

Minutes of the scheduled meetings of the Parish Council Wednesday 24 July 2024 7.00pm in Aymestrey Parish Hall

Present: Cllrs Domenica Dunne, Ian Goddard, Helen Hamilton, Dan Hurcomb (Chairman), Nicola Luscott, John Probert and Eleanor Waldron.

In attendance: Six members of Public, The footpaths Officer, Ward Councillor Carole Gandy, Mrs Maggie Brown (Clerk).

35./2024 Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Mike Snoswell.

36./2024 Declaration of Interest received from Cllr Hurcomb in item 48. No written Dispensation requests received.

37./2024 **Open Discussion:** (not exceeding 15min total)

- a) Ward Cllr Carole Gandy gave a summary of her report which can be seen on the Parish Council's website. Road closure dates for resurfacing were noted. Access will be available to The Riverside Inn, and to the Parish Hall. Cllr Gandy thanked all those involved in organising the Aymestrey fete which had been a great success. Herefordshire Council has agreed to 'paint' stencilled markings on the resurfaced road at the same time as white lining. Thanks were recorded to Councillor Gandy for her invaluable input and assistance with the Traffic Calming proposals.
- b) Reports from Councillors.
Cllr Goddard. Aymestrey notice board will be repaired as soon as possible.
Cllr Probert reported a damaged salt box on Covenhope Lane. Clerk to report to Balfour Beatty.
- c) Views of residents on parish matters.
 - i. The road has been swept and pavement partially cleared of debris; a great improvement.
 - ii. Has foliage around the 30mph sign been trimmed back? To be checked by the Resident/Clerk.

38./2024 **RESOLVED.** Minutes of the scheduled meeting held 26 June 2024 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

39./2024 **Footpaths**

- a) Update from the Footpaths Officer. Bracken to be cleared on AY1A by The Riverside, AY4A Yatton to Wigmore and AY8 from Yatton up to the Iron Age fort. The National Trust has offered supplies to repair steps on the Mortimer Trail. No expense claims received.
The Officer was thanked for works undertaken on behalf of the Parish, and for his assistance in putting together a grant application submitted to Herefordshire Council to fund repair/replacement of steps, stiles and gates.
- b) Works to be undertaken by the Footpaths Officer. None raised.

40./2024 **Grant Application.** Application from Aymestrey Parochial Church Council (PCC) for a donation towards the upkeep of churchyards and consider payment, in line with the 2024/25 budget. **RESOLVED** to donate £685 as per the budget for 2024/25. Clerk to advise the PCC that this is over the usual 50% as it is understood additional funds are required this year.

41./2024 **Financial Matters**

- a) Received. Report from the Responsible Financial Officer for Quarter 1. **RESOLVED** to follow recommendations to move £875 from General Reserves to Community Projects budget heading, for the cost of a new notice board at Covenhope and apply for a Building Society Account – see item 41. /2024 e).
- b) Noted. Verification of reconciliation of the bank statement to end June 2024 was confirmed by Cllr Snoswell before the meeting.
- c) Noted. Payment made between meetings £310.50 to One Stop Print Shop for printing Aymestrey Matters.
- d) Noted. Order for new notice board at Covenhope Acorn Workshop Ref 3131 £875 net. Not yet paid. Cllrs Goddard and Probert offered to install the board.
- e) **RESOLVED** to apply for a [Virgin Money Business Online 30-Day Notice Account](#) on the proviso that two or more councillors are needed to alter the designated account to which funds are transferred.
- f) **RESOLVED** to transfer funds from Lloyds 32-day notice account to current account ready to invest in Virgin Money account and delegate authority to the Clerk and Cllr Waldron to agree future transfers between accounts.
- g) **RESOLVED** to make honorarium payment of £360.00 to the Footpaths Officer for 2024/25.
- h) Noted. Balances on 18 July 2024. Lloyds Current a/c £11,747.90, 32-day Notice Account £10,140.02.
- i) Noted. Reserves. Reserve £5,000, General Reserve £9,410.88. Total £14,410.88
Noted. Ringfenced funds. Election £829.92 and Traffic Calming £2,795.98. Total £3,625.92
- j) **RESOLVED:** to approve the following payments.
 - i DM Payroll Services Inv. 3657 Payroll administration 6 months. £60.00
 - ii Clerk's Payroll Month 4 £285.58

iii	HMRC PAYE Month 4	£71.40
iv	Clerk Expenses. Mileage £17.55	£17.55
	Total Payments	£434.53
	Non reserve/ringfenced balance after July payments:	£3,416.59
	Balance in current account after July payments	£11,313.37

42./2024 **Traffic Calming. Aymestrey.**

- a) Update – the Group has been pulling together necessary information and costings prior to road resurfacing. Actions arising are included in b) to f) below.
- b) Decorative markings in new road surface, including financial implications.
Noted. Marking will be completed by Herefordshire Council.
Agreed: Members of the working group will arrange a stencil template. The Mortimer emblem is proposed.
- c) Proposals for the design and size of new gates at both ends of the village.
RESOLVED to accept the design of gates and apply for relevant licences to complete the installation; to be signed by Cllr Hurcomb and/or the Clerk if required.
- d) **RESOLVED** to authorise the purchase of new gates from Watt Plastics Ltd., having first checked the dimensions.
- e) Locations for additional Speed Indicator Device posts.
RESOLVED to agree locations as recommended, and to apply for any necessary licences; to be signed by Cllr Hurcomb and/or the Clerk if required. Cllr Hurcomb to follow up with Traffic Management (Herefordshire Council).

Thanks were recorded to members of the Traffic Calming Working Group.

- f) Traffic Regulation Order requests submitted.
Noted: Requests to alter speed restrictions were not agreed as part of the Traffic Calming Proposals for 2024.
RESOLVED to leave the Parish Council's requests to progress through the Traffic Regulation Order process.
- g) Selection of planters (Floral Group). **Agreed:** to consider locations for planters at the September meeting.
- h) Applying for cultivation licence (Floral Group) was considered.

43./2024 **Traffic Calming. Mortimers Cross.** Discussed. Arranging meeting with Simon Hobbs and Ian Connolly regarding options for traffic calming. **RESOLVED** to arrange meeting once representative from the Working Group has been agreed.

44./2024 **Defibrillators**

- a) Yatton. Noted. Cllr Goddard has a copy of the Agreement, to be signed by the householder prior to installation. An electrician is needed to complete the installation. **RESOLVED** up to £400 may be spent to complete this project.
- b) Noted. Report on defibrillator at the Parish Hall. The Lifepak CR Plus defibrillator was discontinued in 2019, and parts are increasingly difficult to buy. Replacement of this defibrillator was not included in the budget for 2024/25.
RESOLVED to contact the resident who funded the defibrillator to explain the situation; to contact the Sudden Adult Death Trust (SADS UK) for advice; and then to buy replacement adult and children's pads and Charge-PAK. Agreed: to discuss the defibrillator's replacement as part of the budgeting process for 2025/26.

45./2024 **Rural Housing Enabler (RCH) Project.** Considered - inviting Community First to discuss [the Project](#). Reported. No one is currently available to discuss the project. Agreed: Cllr Gandy will let the Parish Council know when a person has been appointed. To be discussed again later in the year.

46./2024 **Consultation.** Responses to

- a) Police and Crime Commissioner's Town and Parish Council Survey. Agreed: to respond as individuals.
- b) Request from the Safer Neighbourhood Partnership to confirm top three Community Issues, currently Speeding, Thefts (Other) and Thefts (Farms). Agreed: to confirm top three issues remain the same.

47./2024 **Asset Register.** Agreed: to add the Stihl Brush cutter to the Register.

48./2024 **Lengthsman.** Cllr Hurcomb did not vote on the following in accordance with his declaration of interest.

- a) Optimum time to clear debris on pavement in Aymestrey and estimated cost.
Agreed: optimum time is before the road is closed for resurfacing. Estimated cost £60 per hour for 2 men was agreed. This is expected to be a one-off rather than a regular Lengthsman's task.
It was **RESOLVED** that the Chairman, Cllr Dan Hurcomb, would write to residents fronting the A4110 asking for their support in keeping the village tidy.
- b) To consider works to be undertaken by the Lengthsman. **RESOLVED**
 - i. To ask the Lengthsman to clear the pavement from the southern end of Aymestrey to Ballsgate Lane, before the road is closed for resurfacing.

- ii. To ask the Lengthsman to quote for installing replacement village gates and Speed Indicator Device sockets.
- iii. To delegate responsibility to the Clerk and Cllr Goddard to assess and accept the quotation, to an upper limit of £1,500. If this sum is insufficient, an additional meeting will be called to consider financing.

49./2024 Contents of the Information Sheet were noted. No matters arising.

50./2024 Confirm date of next scheduled meeting of the Parish Council, Wednesday 25 September 2024 there being no scheduled meeting in August. Noted: An additional meeting will be called in August if needed.

Meeting closed: 21:17

Original signed and on file

Signed
Chairman of the Parish Council

Dated 25 September 2024.