

Aymestrey Parish Council

Minutes Annual Meeting of the Parish Council Wednesday 22 May 2019 at 7.00pm in Aymestrey Parish Hall

Declarations of Acceptance of Office were received from Councillors following their election in May 2019 in accordance with s 83(4) of the LGA 1972.

MINUTES

Present: Cllrs Ian Goddard, Helen Hamilton, Ken Holland & Eleanor Waldron

In attendance: 1 member of the public, Footpaths Officer Mr David Dunn, Ward Cllr Carole Gandy, Maggie Brown (Clerk).

1. **To elect a Chairman:** Cllr Ian Goddard was nominated, elected as Chairman and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.
2. **To elect a Vice Chairman:** Cllr Helen Hamilton was nominated, elected as Vice Chairman and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.
3. **Apologies for absence:** Received from Cllr Ian Banks. **RESOLVED:** Declarations of Acceptance of Office may be accepted at the June meeting.
4. **Declarations of Interest:**
 - 4.1. No declarations of interest declared.
 - 4.2. No requests for dispensations received.
5. **General Powers of Competence:** Having met conditions of eligibility defined in the Localism Act 2011, **RESOLVED** to adopt the General Power of Competence until the next Annual Meeting of the Parish Council after Ordinary Elections.
6. **RESOLVED** To approve and adopt the following.
 - 6.1. Revised 2018 Herefordshire Code of Conduct
 - 6.2. Standing Orders
 - 6.3. Financial Regulations
 - 6.4. Risk Management Policy
 - 6.5. Asset Register
 - 6.6. Publication Scheme
7. **RESOLVED:** To appoint Cllrs Ian Banks, Ian Goddard & Ken Holland as members of the Finance Working Group.
8. Dates of Parish Council meetings, on the 4th Wednesday of the month, confirmed as follows:

26 June 2019	December – no scheduled meeting
24 July 2019	22 January 2020
August – no scheduled meeting	26 February 2020
25 September 2019	25 March 2020
23 October 2019	22 April 2020
27 November 2019	27 May 2020

Minutes Scheduled Meeting of the Parish Council Wednesday 22 May 2019, following the Annual Meeting

MINUTES

10. **Parish Council Vacancies:** **RESOLVED** to co-opt Annaly Goodwin & David Duggan; who joined the meeting after signing their Declarations of Acceptance of Office.
11. **Open Discussion:**
- 11.1. Ward Cllr Carole Gandy's [report](#) had been circulated to Cllrs. Reported: Cars parked outside the Mortimer Cross Inn could cause a hazard, traffic cones might be used to prevent this. The new administration is likely to be a coalition, made up of Independents, The Green Party & It's Our County members. The Chairman congratulated Cllr Gandy on her re-election.
 - 11.2. No matters raised by the resident present.
 - 11.3. Chairman's update:
 - 11.3.1. Drainage problem at Mortimers Cross reported to Balfour Beatty.
 - 11.3.2. Letter drafted to Parish Hall about the phone box.
 - 11.3.3. Enquiries to be made about pavement between Yatton Court and Bath Cottage. Noted: Minimum width required 1.2m.
 - 11.3.4. Two issues in Ballsgate Lane; (1) subsidence on lane by The Mill due to weight of Forestry Commission vehicles; (2) pool by weir fenced off by the Environment Agency, and gates locked. Reported: a salmon ladder is being installed.
 - 11.3.5. Gigaclear laying cables in Yatton.
 - 11.3.6. No reports from Councillors received.
12. **RESOLVED:** Minutes of the meeting held 24 April 2019 were agreed and signed as a true record.
13. **Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP):** Noted: The Referendum on 30 May 2019. Flyers to be delivered to every household in the Parish. 4 copies of The Plan printed; to be placed in Mortimers Cross Inn, The Riverside, The Parish Hall and either The Café or Aymestrey Church.
14. **Insurance:** Noted: receipt of Insurance Policy, Schedule & Certificate of Employers Liability.
15. **Good Neighbour Scheme:** Options for mobile phone being looked into; insurance implications checked; Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) forms prepared for Volunteers.
16. **Aymestrey Phone Box:** Noted: Parish Hall concerns raised at Parish Meeting. **RESOLVED** Chairman to send letter to Parish Hall Committee. Suggested use for box, book exchange and permanent visitor information.
17. **Highways**
- 17.1. Traffic Calming scheme. Reported: Balfour Beatty will paint white lines during suitable spell of weather. Grass around Village Gates needs cutting – Cllr Ken Holland offered to do this. Further research into Speed Indicator Devices to be undertaken.
 - 17.2. **RESOLVED** to return 2019/20 Lengthsman Annual Maintenance Plan for 2019/20.
 - 17.3. Works to be undertaken by the Lengthsman: Grips in the area near Woodhampton Farm and on A4110 by Corner House. Noted: Roadside verges in Covenhope cut before wild flowers have set seed. Could these be cut later? Wild flowers are diminishing and biodiversity lost.
 - 17.4. Noted: Quarterly report from the Footpaths Officer, attached to these Minutes. Suggested arranging guided walks as part of a Herefordshire walking event in July, followed by tea & scones in the Parish Hall.
 - 17.5. Works to be undertaken by the Footpaths Officer. Reported: Plank serving as bridge on AY4A in danger of breaking. Enquiries being made about repair. Thanks were recorded on behalf of the whole Parish to Mr Dunn for works undertaken.

18. Planning Applications

- 18.1. **P191511/PA7 - All others - Prior Approval** on April 30, 2019 at 12:00 am Mortimers Cross Farm Mortimers Cross Leominster Herefordshire HR6 9PD, Application for prior notification of an agricultural building for grain storage and general purpose agricultural use. , Valid [...]

RESOLVED to respond: *Aymestrey Parish Council asks that Herefordshire Council request a prior notification re application P191511/PA7 as the proposal is inappropriately sited in an undeveloped field. It would have less impact if placed alongside/adjacent to the existing buildings.*

19. Financial Matters

- 19.1. Noted: Application received from Aymestrey Parochial Church Council (PCC) for donation towards upkeep of churchyards. **RESOLVED** payment of £900 line with the 2019/20 budget be paid, before the June meeting of the Parish Council if required.

- 19.2. Noted: Account balances. **RESOLVED:** to approve payments as listed below.

Balance at 30 April 2019	Lloyds Bank	18,714.69
TOTAL ABOVE INCLUDES RINGFENCED FUNDS :		
	For Traffic Calming Schemes	3,010.03
	Parish initiatives	936.00
	Election Fund	500.00
	Reserve Fund	3,000.00
	General Reserve	5,492.31
	TOTAL ringfenced @ 30 April 2019	£ 12,938.34

INCOME received in April 2019	Amount (incl. VAT)	VAT
Refund from Balfour Beatty on 16/4/19	3,416.88	569.48
First half of Precept for 2019/20 on 18/4/19	5,414.00	
TOTAL	£ 8,830.88	£ 569.48

Payments approved	Amount (incl. VAT)	Chq No
Came & Co Insurance	218.00	000017
Clerk's Pay (1 Apr to 31 May 2019)	536.60	000018
HMRC PAYE	35.40	000019
Plusnet - Direct Debit payment for broadband	19.20	DD
TOTAL	£ 809.20	

20. Noted: contents of Information Sheet.

21. Confirmed: Date of the next meeting, scheduled for Wednesday 26 June 2019.

Meeting closed 20:39

Signed Helen Hamilton

Clr Helen Hamilton

Vice Chairman, Aymestrey Parish Council. (Original copy signed and on file)

DATE 26 June 2019

Spring Footpath Report 2019.

Well a relatively mild winter, and warm periods leading into spring has meant vegetation growth has sprung in action.

Reports of nettle growth and vegetation keeps me busy with the scythe and I have still a few paths to clear. AY1, AY1A, AY5 and the Mortimer Trail are the last to be sorted. Otherwise the rest are open for use.

Work is now due, as I have permission from Yatton Court to put in a Dog pass within the Stile, this will be most welcome for walkers with dogs, to easily access Croft from Aymestrey using the Mortimer Trail (AY3).

Some complaints were received in relation to AY1 near Covenhope. A wobbly stile has been refurbished and is now useable. Now, further complaints for the same stile have been submitted, with regard to barbed wire being a danger. I haven't taken this too seriously as the wire runs in and underneath the top rail. I won't cut the wire and jeopardise the integrity of the fence, however will staple it up against the underside and shroud it with a length of timber. This area of the AY1 will always be a problem as it leads through the Farm at Covenhope. Until something changes, the Official Path is where it is.

Storm Hanna arrived and went with little damage. A Storm in a Teacup. Some small trees were brought down but they won't take much clearing.

My thanks go to Yatton Court for the approval to put in Dog Passes and of course to Forestry Commission, for allowing access through locked gates to be able to get closer to carry out any work. They have also been very helpful in clearing a large oak tree which had fallen across the Mortimer Trail blocking the path near Ballsgate Common.

Currently I have no expenses as the scythe is not fitted with a Petrol Tank.

If anyone has any issues with vegetation growth or trees down. I await any calls.

I believe there is to be an organised Walking Adventure coming to Herefordshire in July. I would like to put Aymestrey on the Map by assisting with a Guided Walk and later, Tea and Cake at the Village Hall.

Here's to a busy Walking summer.