

Aymestrey Parish Council

Minutes of Scheduled Meeting of the Parish Council on Wednesday 23 January 2019 at 7.30pm in Aymestrey Parish Hall

Present: Cllrs Ian Banks; Ian Goddard (Chairman); Annaly Goodwin; Helen Hamilton; Ken Holland and Eleanor Waldron.

Absent: Cllrs Wendy Bowen and John Probert.

In attendance: 1 member of the public; Ward Cllr Carole Gandy; Maggie Brown (Clerk).

1. **Apologies:** Apologies were received from David Dunn, Footpath Officer.

2. **Declarations of Interest:**

- 2.1. No declarations of interest were received.
- 2.2. No requests for dispensations were received.

3. **Open Discussion:**

3.1. Ward Cllr Carole Gandy's report was circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting. In addition, Cllr Gandy reported the following:

- PCSO Steph Harper offers cyber safety training covering telephone, PC and door to door scams, *and* property marking of hand tools. These could be incorporated on the same day. It was agreed to consider arranging this at the Annual Parish Meeting in May, subject to availability and timing.
- Cllr Gandy has written to the portfolio holder responsible for highways about filling damaged grit bins with salt, and the associated waste of resources. The portfolio holder has contacted Balfour Beatty requesting confirmation of procedure.
- Balfour Beatty is undertaking an audit of grit bins on its asset list, and an updated map showing locations will be produced.
- No update on planning application [P180509/F](#) Land at the rear of The Barns had been received.

3.2. The resident present raised the following points:

- When are the Village Gates to be installed?
- How can a corner of the Parish Hall car park be taken in the planning applications for "*Land adjacent to the Village Hall*"?
- Increasing risk to pedestrians on the pavement due to encroaching vegetation.
- Continued concern over speeding vehicles through the village.

3.3. The Chairman gave the following update:

- Planning Application [P174073/O](#) Land to the rear of Mortimers Cross Inn, has been refused.
- The Parish Council's response to the review of England's National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) has been submitted.
- AONBs were discussed at the Chair & Clerk meeting on 16 January 2019, after which Cllr Carole Gandy attended a meeting in Craven Arms on a potential expansion of the Shropshire Hills AONB. Julian Glover, who is leading the independent review of England's National Parks and AONBs was also present.
- A reply from PCSO Steph Harper about headlights being switched off before crossing junction at Mortimers Cross – this would be an offence, driving without due care or attention. CCTV of public areas (e.g. road junction) cannot be used by private citizens as a camera may only view to the curtilage of own property.

- Footage that does not comply with CCTV guidelines is not admissible as evidence for any prosecution. Police request a report of any vehicles driving with no lights to the police, including date & time, name of business and/or registration number.
- The Chairman and Clerk are going to a Parish Council Summit in Hereford on 24 January 2019.
- Councillors wishing to attend parish council training should check with Clerk that budgeted funds are available.
- An invitation to Multi Faith Service of Celebration and thanksgiving for Mortimer Forest. Sunday 17 March 2019, 11am, St Lawrence, Ludlow has been received.

4. **Minutes:** It was RESOLVED that Minutes of the Scheduled Meeting of the Parish Council 28 November 2018 and Extraordinary Meeting 19 December 2018 be signed as a true record.

5. **Consultations:**

5.1. [Mortimer Forest Plan Consultation](#) Tree Wardens Cllrs Helen Hamilton and Ken Holland reported on the public meeting held by Forestry Commission England on Wednesday 16 January 2019

It was RESOLVED to respond to the consultation as follows:

Aymestrey Parish Council asks Forestry Commission England to implement its obligations under the [Keepers of Time Policy](#) by replanting the ancient woodland in Mortimer Forest, including Gatley Long Coppice which is within the parish boundary; that the woodland be enhanced by linked open spaces, thereby increasing biodiversity in accordance with the Government's commitment; and that the Commission reviews the historic mapping and other archives to better understand the heritage value and biodiversity potential of the forest. Please refer to www.mortimerforest.net and the references therein. The restoration of Gatley Long Coppice would provide a corridor from Mortimer Forest out to the wider habitats, which is of importance and worth consideration.

5.2. Wigmore Group Regulation 16 resubmission [Neighbourhood Development Plan](#) consultation. It was RESOLVED to respond that Aymestrey Parish Council has no comment to make.

6. **Correspondence:**

- 6.1. Aymestrey : Obstruction to pavement. The Parish Council shares these concerns and will take such action as it may. It was agreed the Clerk will reply to the resident.
- 6.2. Leinthall Earls : Blocked culvert & clogged ditches near Leinthall Earls. Balfour Beatty's Locality Steward advises this is the responsibility of the landowner. It was agreed the Clerk will reply to the resident, and Clerk/Chairman will contact the landowner.
- 6.3. Presentations from West Mercia Police on Crime Reduction. It was RESOLVED to arrange this at the Annual Parish Meeting in May, subject to availability and timing.

7. **Good Neighbour Scheme:** Cllr Waldron reported that a small core group of volunteers is needed initially. A call for volunteers will be advertised as widely as possible and Cllr Waldron will submit information for inclusion in the March edition of Aymestrey Matters. It was agreed that a generic email address for the scheme be set up. It was suggested that a display might be arranged at the Annual Parish Meeting in May.

8. **Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP):**

- 8.1. The NDP examination is in progress. There is no update available.
- 8.2. Unspent Grant. An extension has been agreed, funds now to be returned by 31 March 2019.

9. Highways

- 9.1. An update on Traffic Calming scheme was received as follows:
- Invoices matching quotations for Village Gates and White Lining Scheme received from Herefordshire Council. These have been paid, and receipt confirmed by Balfour Beatty (BB).
 - 4 x *Welcome to Aymestrey* signs were due to be delivered to BB week ending 18 January 2019. It was RESOLVED that the Clerk will ask BB for an update.
- 9.2. Works to be undertaken by the Lengthsman. See 6.2. No further works were proposed.
- 9.3. A report had been received from the Footpaths Officer. Expenses of £28.65 were noted. A safe path for walkers on the edge of the A4110 from Yatton Court to Bath Cottage was proposed. It was RESOLVED that the Chairman make further enquiries.
- 9.4. Obstruction to Permissive Path in Covenhope. The Parish Council regrets the gate at the north end of the permissive path is padlocked. It wishes to ensure the AY1 public right of way remains open, and RESOLVED to contact Balfour Beatty to request repairs be made to the definitive footpath to make it accessible.

10. Planning Applications

P182069/F - Planning Permission Land Adjacent to the Village Hall - Plot 6
P182071/F - Planning Permission Land Adjacent to the Village Hall - Plot 7
P182072/F - Planning Permission Land Adjacent to the Village Hall - Plot 1a
 Comments made by Herefordshire Highways were debated. It was RESOLVED to write to the Case Officer, Mr Mark Tansley, as follows:

At the meeting of Aymestrey Parish Council which took place last night concern was expressed about the memorandum from 'Highways' dated 10 October 2018 authored by Farzanah Mamoojee and Bruce Evans. I have been asked to write to you in the following terms:

The Parish Council is concerned with three aspects of the review:

First, the review seems to have been undertaken on the mistaken premise that there is a s106 agreement in place as a condition of the planning permission for five houses on the same site under reference 173692. While the Parish Council would welcome extra funds, there is no s106 condition attached to the planning permission granted under that reference.

Second, while the visibility splay angle shown in drawing 1447/SW/1D suggests that there is a visibility of 104m to the north from a point 2.4m from the road edge, this is not achievable without removing one or more trees, the village notice board, the fence of the village hall car park and the Post Office letter box, none of which are shown on the plan. The trees, fence, Post Office letter box and notice board are all on land which is not under the ownership or control of the applicants. While plans filed by the respective applicants in connection with these three applications and application 173692 suggest that the splay is achievable, given the certainty by the people who live in the village that the visibility splay to the north is not achievable without removal of the trees and obstructions, the Parish Council asks that the suitability of the road access is inspected on site by the Highways department before further process.

Third, the memorandum states that 'Footway provision is also provided at the site access point.'. This footway also involves land not under the control of the applicants as it ends where the aforementioned trees are on the land attached to the Village Hall.

The memorandum may have been written as a 'desktop' review without a site visit, but the Parish Council considers that it cannot be right that the agreement of the Highways department is given on no less than three material misapprehensions.

11. Financial Matters

11.1. Accounts to 31 December 2018 and quarter end report from Financial Officer were circulated prior to the meeting. The precept request form has been returned, VAT reclaim submitted and Quarter 3 bank reconciliation verified.

11.2. Account balances and cheques signed between meetings were noted.

Wednesday

Balance at 31 December 2018		
	Natwest Bank	12,926.92
TOTAL ABOVE INCLUDES RINGFENCED FUNDS :		
	For Traffic Calming Schemes	1,799.07
	For Neighbourhood Development Plan	2,010.00
	Parish initiatives including £250 for election expenses 2019	1,186.00
	Reserve fund	3,000.00
	TOTAL ringfenced	7,995.07
	Total non-ringfenced funds @ 31 December 2018	£ 4,931.85

The following cheques had been signed since the meeting on 17/11/18:		
Christie Antiques (balance for WW1 Commemorative Mirror)	67.95	000205
One Stop Print Shop (Aymestrey Commemorative Walking Books)	30.00	000206
One Stop Print Shop (Aymestrey Matters Winter Edition)	248.40	000207
Herefordshire Council Inv 91258854 (White Lining Scheme)	2,510.86	000208
Herefordshire Council Inv 91258855 (installation of gates & signs)	4,754.87	000209

PAYMENTS: approved	Amount (incl. VAT)	Chq No
Clerk's Pay (1 December 2018 to 31 January 2019)	454.60	000210
Clerk's Expenses (mileage £13.50)	13.50	000211
DM Payroll Services Ltd (Payroll Admin 2nd half year 2018/19)	36.50	000212
Mr D Dunn, Footpath Officer Expenses (petrol)	28.65	000213
Aymestrey Parish Hall (Hall Hire for 2018)	250.00	000214
Plusnet - Direct Debit payment for broadband	19.20	DD
TOTAL	£ 802.45	£ -

12. The contents of Information Sheet were noted.

13. The next scheduled meeting will take place on **27 February 2019**.

Meeting closed at 21:10

Signed

Ian Goddard, Chairman.

DATE 27 February 2019