

Aymestrey Parish Council

Minutes Scheduled Meeting of the Parish Council
 Wednesday 25 September 2019 at 7.30pm in Aymestrey Parish Hall

MINUTES

Present: Cllrs David Duggan, Ian Goddard (Chairman) Helen Hamilton, Ken Holland (19:36), John Probert (19:37) and Eleanor Waldron.

Absent: Cllr Annaly Goodwin.

In attendance: 4 members of the public, Footpaths Officer, Ward Cllr Carole Gandy, and Maggie Brown (Clerk).

1. **Apologies:** Received from Cllr Ian Banks.

2. **Declarations of Interest:**

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

3. **Open Discussion:**

3.1. Ward Cllr Carole Gandy's [report](#) circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting. Noted: A [Network Management Plan Survey](#) for all residents is available on Herefordshire Council website.

3.2. Residents present questioned:

- 3.2.1. Whether the new housing development next to the Parish Hall has an official address?
Noted: It will be available after registration with the Post Office.
- 3.2.2. What the Traffic Calming ring-fenced funds are for? See item 13.1.
- 3.2.3. What is the result of the works completed so far? Noted: Anecdotal evidence that drivers are slowing down sooner. No survey of traffic is planned. Speeding drivers are still overtaking in the 30mph zone. Speed checks undertaken by Police recently.

3.3. **Reported by the Chairman:**

- 3.3.1. Funds have been raised by an individual resident for two further defibrillators, one at Upper Lye Farmhouse, and one at Lye Court Farm, Lower Lye where there is ample room to pull off the road. The owners of Lye Court Farm have generously offered to pay electricity running costs. All defibrillators are registered with *The Circuit*, the [National Defibrillator Network](#), which links ambulance services with the public. The Parish Council wishes to record its congratulations and thanks to the resident on this further outstanding achievement, but is required to preserve the resident's anonymity due to Data Protection regulations.
- 3.3.2. Finance Group will put forward budget proposals for 2020/21 budget at October meeting. Suggestions for costs for inclusion in budget invited.
- 3.3.3. Aymestrey Matters needs a new editorial team. The Winter edition will be the last one edited by the current team. Aymestrey Matters is an important method of communicating with everyone in the parish. Councillors and members of the public are encouraged to think of possible candidates for the role, and to spread the word.
- 3.3.4. Chairman invited to represent Aymestrey Parish Council at the Wigmore (School) Celebration Evening on 7 November 2019. Noted: Parish Council minded to donate £30 to sponsor an award, as per budget. Payment to be added to October agenda.

Reported by Councillors:

- 3.3.5. Cllrs Hamilton & Holland attended Herefordshire Council Summit.
 - 3.3.5.1. New administration inviting ideas on priorities under broad categories.
 - 3.3.5.2. Views invited on budget priorities for 2020/21.

- 3.3.5.3. Good opportunity to give feedback.
- 3.3.5.4. Sense that parish councils are not listened to.
- 3.3.5.5. Suggested if Parish Council objects to planning application, it should go to Committee and not be decided under delegated powers.
- 3.3.5.6. Herefordshire Core Strategy has to be revised after 5 years. Revisions to the National Planning Policy Framework need to be incorporated into plan.
- 3.3.5.7. Aymestrey Neighbourhood Development Plan will need to be updated to comply with Core Strategy.
- 3.3.5.8. Next Parish Council Summit – Thursday 19 March 2020.

- 3.3.6. Cllr Holland: provided map showing potential route of walk at Commando Bridge. To be added to October agenda.
- 3.3.7. Cllr Probert reported 3 grit bins damaged by contractors cutting verges between Upper Lye & Cross of the Tree. Cllr Probert to email exact location to Cllr Carole Gandy.
- 3.3.8. Cllr Duggan reported damage by contractors to reflective road marker posts just past Mill on Lye road. Clerk to report to Locality Steward.
 - 3.3.8.1. Maintenance needed on ditch between first turn into Sned Wood & Woodhampton. Chairman to speak to riparian owner.
 - 3.3.8.2. Road between Sned Wood and Upper Lye in very poor condition. Clerk to report to Locality Steward.

4. **Minutes: RESOLVED:** Minutes of the scheduled meeting 24 July 2019 and extraordinary meeting 28 August 2019 be signed as a true record.

5. Financial Matters

- 5.1. Noted: no direct debit taken by PlusNet since 20 June 2019. Clerk to follow up.
- 5.2. Noted: receipt £245.70 from Aymestrey Parish Hall towards Aymestrey Matters printing costs.
- 5.3. Noted: receipt of Precept Form from Herefordshire Council.
- 5.4. Noted: balances and **RESOLVED:** to approve payments:

Lloyds Bank Balance at 18 September 2019		£ 14,900.88	
Ringfenced funds:	For Traffic Calming Schemes	£ 5,857.43	
	Parish initiatives	£ 936.00	
	Election Fund	£ 500.00	
	Reserve Fund	£ 3,000.00	
	General Reserve	£ 1,660.05	
	TOTAL ringfenced	£ 11,953.48	
	Un-ringfenced funds available:	£ 2,947.40	
	Online payments approved:	Amount (incl. VAT)	VAT
D M Payroll Services Ltd Inv 543 for 1st 6 months		36.50	-
D & B Williams, Lengthsman, Invoice 169		90.00	15.00
Clerk's pay for 2 months (1 August to 30 September)		536.60	
HMRC PAYE		35.40	-
Clerk's expenses Aug/Sep: Mileage £13.50; postage £1.06		14.56	-
Clerk's Home Working Allowance for 1st 6 months		50.00	
Total Payments		£ 763.06	£ 15.00
Un-ringfenced balance after September Payments:		£ 2,184.34	

6. Responses to the following:

6.1. Invitation to launch of [One Step Out!](#) Community First project supporting rural communities. **RESOLVED:** Not to follow up as Aymestrey Good Neighbour Scheme (AGNS) is first priority.

6.2. [Mortimer Forest Community Survey](#). **RESOLVED:** Survey not suitable for Parish Council response. Councillors encouraged to respond individually. Clerk to put information on website.

6.3. Community Engagement – West Mercia Police & Crime Commissioner. Is West Mercia Police Communications Team reaching Aymestrey Parish effectively, in a way that suits all residents? **RESOLVED:** Clerk to reply suggesting using Aymestrey Matters to reach residents.

7. **The Parish Plan:** Cllr Holland reported: Hard and electronic copies of Parish Plan sent to Parish Hall Committee and Parochial Church Council (PCC) for review. Parish Hall Committee discussed at recent meeting. Cllr Holland to ask for copy of Minutes. Feedback from PCC expected after their meeting on 25 September 2019. Cllrs Banks and Holland to go through the rest of the plan and report back. Thanks were recorded to Cllrs Banks & Holland.

Cllr Hamilton reported: One aim in Parish Plan is to work with Forestry Commission (FC) to ensure ancient woodland managed effectively. Concern raised over use of historic mapping. Meeting arranged with FC regional estates manager, Lorne Campbell, to discuss progress in updating maps. Cllr Hamilton to report back after meeting.

8. **Aymestrey Good Neighbour Scheme (AGNS):** Cllr Waldron reported: AGNS documentation drafted and circulated to councillors. Leaflets printed and delivered with Aymestrey Matters. Mobile phone purchased. Credit for phone to be organised by Cllr Waldron. Insurance to be followed up by Cllr Goddard. Volunteers to complete Registration Form, and Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) checks. Expenditure to be included in October agenda. Noted: AGNS will be run by Aymestrey community, not the Parish Council. The Parish Hall discussed offering the Hall as venue for launch of project.

9. Notice Boards:

9.1. New boards installed in Parish Hall car park, and Mortimers Cross. Renovation to all other boards completed, with exception of glass in Covenhope board. Thanks recorded to Cllr Banks and a resident for installation and renovation of notice boards. **RESOLVED:** Clerk to write letter of thanks to resident on behalf of Parish Council.

9.2. Noted: Expenses to be added to October agenda.

10. **Aymestrey Phone Box:** Noted: Cllr Goddard to speak to Chairman of Parish Hall Committee about site in Parish Hall car park.

11. To consider **Christmas Lights** in Aymestrey village. Noted: Battery operated lights cost £5-£8 per pack. Discussed: possibility of Christmas tree in each community. **RESOLVED:** to consider in 2020.

12. Noted: **SmartWater** can be purchased by individuals @ £25.00+VAT www.smartwater.com
Clerk to add to website.

13. Highways

13.1. **Traffic Calming scheme.** Reported: Cllr Goddard investigating Speed Indicator Devices (SIDS). Two sites in Aymestrey village already approved by Balfour Beatty. Noted: SIDS to be added to October agenda. Sites to be discussed with neighbouring owners, costings prepared and site at Mortimers Cross investigated.

- 13.2. Request for warning signs for lorries between Aymestrey/Lingen via Limebrook.
RESOLVED: Not to follow up until result of action taken by Border Group Parish Council known. Clerk to reply to resident. Noted: Suggestion that 30mph sign on lane from Lower Lye to Aymestrey be moved, and 40mph buffer zones on A4110 be installed. Both would require Traffic Regulation Order. Possibility to be investigated.
- 13.3. **Lengthsman:** Reported: Ditches and grips cleared at Leinthall Earls, Lye Pole Bank and Lower Lye after heavy rain. **RESOLVED:** to request grips between Woodhampton and Sned Wood be cleared. Cllr Probert to contact Lengthsman.
- 13.4. To consider further training for the Footpaths Officer. Noted: Footpaths Officer would only use herbicides sparingly, as last resort. **RESOLVED:** To seek second volunteer with necessary qualifications to assist Footpaths Officer as required. Clerk to check courses apply to herbicides, not pesticides as shown in Agenda, insurance implications, and appeal for second volunteer on website. Thanks were recorded to the Footpaths Officer for his volunteer work maintaining paths in Aymestrey Parish.
- 13.5. **Footpaths Officer:** Noted: Path between Lyepole Cottage and Ballsgate Common cleared by Footpaths Officer. Reported: Mortimer Trail between Stocking Corner and Shobdon Hill Wood very overgrown. Clerk to report to Locality Steward.

14. Noted: contents of Information Sheet.

15. Noted: date of the next meeting, scheduled for Wednesday 23 October 2019.

Meeting closed at 21:21

Signed ...*Ian Goddard*.....
 Cllr Ian Goddard
 Chairman, Aymestrey Parish Council.

DATE 23 October 2019

Original copy signed and on file.