



DORMINGTON & MORDIFORD GROUP PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the Meeting of the Group Parish Council held on Tuesday 18th November 2014 at 7.30pm

Present

Cllrs Nick Brewin (Chair), Jan Ashton-Jones, Ray Dickson (Vice Chair), Brian Dukes, John Litchfield, John Lee, David Lloyd, Lorna Radnor, Cheryl Shearer

In attendance

Ward Cllr John Hardwick
Miss Kerri Finney – Headteacher, Mordiford School
Mr Simon Mair – Governor, Mordiford School
Chris Bucknell – Clerk
6 members of the public

Item	Minutes	Action
475	<p>To Receive Apologies for Absence There were no apologies for absence</p> <p>The Chair welcomed Miss Kerri Finney (Headteacher), and Mr Simon Mair (Governor) of Mordiford School.</p>	
476	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>a) Cllr Litchfield declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 6a (Planning Application for Mews House).</p> <p>b) No written requests for dispensations had been received</p> <p>c) Predetermination - all Councillors had been circulated with the updated NALC Legal Topic Note 81 on Predetermination. The Clerk briefly outlined what this was and said how decisions based on bias or predetermination could be open to challenge in a judicial review. All Councillors should be objective and fair and consider all relevant and material issues and options when carrying out their Parish Council role.</p>	
477	<p>To accept minutes of the previous meeting held on 21st October 2014 Resolved: Minutes of meeting held on 21st October 2014 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.</p>	
478	<p>To receive brief verbal reports from:</p> <p>a) Police Representative There were no police representatives present. It was noted that communication with the Local Policing Team was very effective.</p> <p>b) Neighbourhood Watch Update Cllr Dukes queried the usefulness of the Local Policing Team Newsletter and had asked PCSO Ekanite if the Newsletter could contain more details of incidents within the area. PCSO Ekanite had responded saying that level of content was dependent on time and commitments, and on the nature of the incidents that had occurred, saying the incidents felt to be most relevant to the community were included. PCSO Ekanite said the SNT were not best placed to give detailed reports on traffic collisions</p>	

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	<p>and road safety issues. The GPC felt that more details of incidents would be useful to help reduce future crimes and the Clerk was asked to write to the Safer Neighbourhood Team to request that this be included in future Newsletters.</p> <p>Cllr Dukes also reported on a break in at Sufton Court where hand tools had been stolen and on the multiple collision at the entrance to Mordiford Bridge. It was felt that a sign showing priority may be useful and this would be discussed at the multi-agency meeting being arranged by Cllr Hardwick.</p> <p>The verge at the side of the road by Mordiford School had been repaired but the Locality Steward felt that little more could be done as the damage was mainly caused by people pulling over to avoid the congestion. This would be discussed at the multi-agency meeting being arranged by Cllr Hardwick.</p> <p>There had been problems at Mordiford Post Office as the equipment often took time to start up and was often not functioning for the full opening hours. The sign should also always be put outside to show when the Post Office was open, and this did not always happen. The Clerk was asked to write to the Post Office about these concerns.</p> <p>The Landlord of the Moon Inn had taken down the Leylandii hedge between the camp site and the Burial Ground but the cuttings had not been taken away and were now pushed down into the ditch which was affecting the septic tank. Cllr Dickson agreed to talk to the Landlord of the Moon about this.</p> <p>c) Ward Member</p> <p>There had been no meeting yet organized to discuss the congestion issues outside of Mordiford School but Cllr Hardwick would continue to pursue this. Cllr P Rone, Cabinet Member for Highways would attend the January meeting. Cllr Hardwick reported on a briefing that had taken place with the Leader of Herefordshire Council, specifically regarding pressure on the Adult Social Care budget, although it was noted that 58% of those receiving care were self-funders. It was also noted that the 2014 Care Act will have a major impact on the budget and the full implications of this are not yet known. Cllr Hardwick spoke of the proposed amendments to the Council Tax Reduction Scheme where it was proposed to reduce the level of support from 84% to 76%. This proposal had gone to Overview and Scrutiny who had felt that this reduction would put pressure on those least able to afford it.</p> <p>Cllr Radnor asked Cllr Hardwick about the change in bin collections and where the savings would come from. It was felt that dedicated recycling and general rubbish collections would be a more efficient use of resources requiring fewer crews to cover a larger area.</p> <p>The congestion on the Mordiford Road was discussed with reference to the Anaerobic Digester Unit at Hampton Bishop. Cllr Hardwick stated that the revised planning application was not yet submitted and would include a Traffic Management Plan. Cllr Hardwick had been unable to get clarification on whether the application would be considered to be a waste application (as detailed in the October minutes) and this would be pursued. Cllr Hardwick said the GPC would be kept fully informed once the planning application had been submitted.</p> <p>d) WM Housing</p> <p>There was no WM Housing representative present. WM Housing now have a landscaping contractor and are beginning to look at the allotments, play area and orchard. They estimate the scheme should be finished in early March 2015, later than planned. They are hoping to bring this forward into February but are still waiting final clearance from Welsh Water. The Clerk has asked them for an update on the housing allocation as soon as this is practicable. The Clerk was asked to ascertain where the shared ownership houses would be advertised.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>RD</p> <p>Clerk</p>
479	<p>Public Participation Session</p> <p>A member of the public wanted it noted that the planning application for Mews House erroneously stated that it is a 'previously developed site'. They wanted it to be made clear that the site for the</p>	<p>Clerk</p>

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480	<p>new dwelling was undeveloped until permission to erect the small stable was given several years ago. The applicant said this refers to the previous planning application having been developed rather than the site itself. It was argued that the stable was required to allow the parcel of land to be used by horses rather than it being a brown field site.</p> <p>A member of the public noted that the planning application for the link road between A49 and A465 was about to be submitted and this might have an impact on Dormington and Mordiford.</p> <p>To Consider Planning Matters</p> <p>a) To Consider any Planning Applications</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="197 562 1434 696"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="197 562 360 598">Reference</th> <th data-bbox="360 562 1434 598">Application</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="197 598 360 696">P143272/F</td> <td data-bbox="360 598 1434 696">Mews House, Mordiford. Proposed earth shelter dwelling to replace an existing stable and storage building.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The applicant was asked to put the proposal into context. The proposal had been prepared by a professional agency following the acquisition of Pre-Planning Advice and would replace the existing stable block. The applicant was asked for clarification on how this application covers the provision of power to the site and he assured the GPC that Western Power could provide a supply with no impact on other dwellings or the surrounding area.</p> <p>It was noted that some of the documentation was not clear and this would be mentioned to Herefordshire Council.</p> <p>Cllrs were asked for their views. Most had no issues from a structural or intrinsic perspective although Cllr Dukes felt that this was an unsuitable development for a Conservation Area and felt the views of relevant environmental bodies should be canvassed before a decision is made.</p> <p>The application was voted on with 6 Cllrs having no objections and 2 having objections.</p> <p>Resolved: To comment on the application saying the GPC supported the proposal provided it met all the local environmental protection guidelines.</p> <p>b) To Note and Decisions/Notifications Received</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="197 1294 1434 1476"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="197 1294 408 1330">Reference</th> <th data-bbox="408 1294 1190 1330">Application</th> <th data-bbox="1190 1294 1434 1330"></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="197 1330 408 1404">P140215/F</td> <td data-bbox="408 1330 1190 1404">83 Tower Hill, Dormington. Resumption of residential use. Retention of bat roost.</td> <td data-bbox="1190 1330 1434 1404">Refused</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="197 1404 408 1476">S/112834/N S112782/F</td> <td data-bbox="408 1404 1190 1476">Court Farm, Hampton Bishop – Anaerobic digester and engineering works to existing slurry storage lagoon.</td> <td data-bbox="1190 1404 1434 1476">Awaiting decision</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Reference	Application	P143272/F	Mews House, Mordiford. Proposed earth shelter dwelling to replace an existing stable and storage building.	Reference	Application		P140215/F	83 Tower Hill, Dormington. Resumption of residential use. Retention of bat roost.	Refused	S/112834/N S112782/F	Court Farm, Hampton Bishop – Anaerobic digester and engineering works to existing slurry storage lagoon.	Awaiting decision	Clerk
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481	<p>Finance</p> <p>a) To receive a Finance Report from the RFO</p> <p>Bank balances: Business Current Account £27,235.53 (Bank statement awaited) Business Reserve account £4,304.64. Online banking has not yet been approved and the Clerk will continue to progress this.</p> <p>VAT reclaim for the period 01/14/13 to 31/13/14 has been paid - £340.56. £55 had been received in payment for a memorial stone to be erected at Mordiford Burial Ground.</p> <p>It should be noted that the above funds include earmarked reserves and grant funding and should not be considered as available funds.</p> <p>b) To agree payment of outstanding invoices</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="213 1921 1434 2033"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="213 1921 352 1957">Cheque</th> <th data-bbox="352 1921 1265 1957">Expenditure</th> <th data-bbox="1265 1921 1434 1957">Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="213 1957 352 2033">820</td> <td data-bbox="352 1957 1265 2033">D C Gardening invoice 258 dated 28/10/14. Churchyard and Burial Ground Maintenance for October 2014.</td> <td data-bbox="1265 1957 1434 2033">£192.81</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Cheque	Expenditure	Amount	820	D C Gardening invoice 258 dated 28/10/14. Churchyard and Burial Ground Maintenance for October 2014.	£192.81								
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	Cheque	Expenditure	Amount	
	822	Enviroability Invoice 917 dated 29/10/14. Bridle way sign posts DR10A, Footpath sign post MF3, Kissing Gate FWC1. P3 grant	£176.00	
	823	Enviroability Invoice 920 dated 29/10/14. Strim Checkley Barn MF24, FWB1 and 2 wayposts. FWC1 fingerpost, FWB2A clear gates and sings, MF18 fit finger post, MF18 fit way maker post, M14 clear ditch and fit hand rail. P3 grant	£146.00	
	824	HALC invoice 4269 dated 17/11/14. Risk Training Course 50% of cost. £12.50 + VAT	£15.00	
	826	M Dyer Lengthsman. Invoice 12 dated 16/11/14. Work on trees at Pentaloe Green as per worksheet dated 10/11/14	£166.00	
	Resolved: All payments approved			Clerk
	c) To Agree 2015/16 Budget and Precept			
	The Finance Committee met on 29 th October and a copy of the budget proposals was circulated to all Cllrs with the meeting papers. The proposals were presented by the Chair.			
	Resolved: To approve the budget for 2015/16 as presented			
	Resolved: To increase the precept to £22,445 for 2015/16 in line with the budget proposals			Clerk
482	Highways and Footpaths			
	a) Highways and Footpath Issues			
	Cllr Litchfield updated on footpath work and thanks were given to the Footpaths Team for all the work they had done. The Clerk reported £261 of P3 grant remained and all invoices had been paid.			
	b) Update on Mordiford Traffic Management			
	It was noted that Balfour Beatty had done a good job in reinstating the earth bank by the school but this has narrowed the road and added to the congestion. Cllr Hardwick would progress the proposed meeting with the BB Locality Steward (Steve Churchill) and the Cabinet Member for Highways (Cllr Paul Rone).			JH
	c) To report any defects to the Clerk			
	The Clerk had been notified of a gully that was blocked at the junction of Larport Lane and the Dormington Mordiford Road. This had been reported to the Locality Steward. It was noted that the area had been marked but no work had yet taken place.			
	No further defects were reported.			
	d) To Report any Jobs for the Lengthsman			
	The Clerk reported that there was £168.51 of grant remaining. No further jobs were reported. No further information regarding the Lengthsman Pilot had been received.			
483	Neighbourhood Planning			
	a) Update on Progress			
	Cllr Shearer and the Clerk had attended a meeting with Chris Gooding of Data Orchard with the aim of identifying data gathering work that could be carried out before the end of 2014. If the NDP was to be a success it was felt that information regarding landowners, businesses etc needed to be gathered and collated in a way which would help decision making. Two questionnaires, one which would identify businesses that were operating or had an interest in the area and one which would identify potential development sites would be circulated before Xmas. It was noted that robust consultation with all sectors of the community was essential and in January an Open Day would be held, which would consolidate and gather community views on issues coming out of the questionnaires.			

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484	<p>The Data Orchard Estimate for Support Services (14/11/14) was circulated to all Cllrs along with a proposal for a business questionnaire.</p> <p>b) Facilitated SWOT session A facilitated SWOT session which would help to identify and agree distinctive features of the area was planned for Monday 24th November. All Cllrs and members of the community were welcome to attend.</p> <p>c) To Agree Devolved Responsibility for NP Expenditure Resolved: It was agreed to devolve responsibility for commissioning work related to the NDP and payment of invoices to be covered by the NP grant to Cllr Shearer and the Clerk up until 31 December 2014.</p> <p>Mordiford Green</p> <p>a) Update from Working Party The noticeboard had now been put up in the Little Green Hut and the plaque has been fixed onto the flood memorial. It was planned to plant shrubs around the area and Cllr Litchfield agreed to look into the purchase of these.</p> <p>The Clerk noted that the mowing of Mordiford Green by Mr Fred Davies (as a volunteer) would be covered by the GPC Public Liability Insurance but that the GPC needed to take overall responsibility for the work, ensuring that it was being carried out in a safe manner. This was noted.</p> <p>b) To Consider any costs related to Mordiford Green</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="209 1003 1315 1294"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="209 1003 357 1037">Cheque</th> <th data-bbox="357 1003 1161 1037">Expenditure</th> <th data-bbox="1161 1003 1315 1037">Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="209 1037 357 1149">821</td> <td data-bbox="357 1037 1161 1149">H W Morgan & Sons. Invoice 332015 dated 02/10/14. Wooden surround and scalplings for Mordiford Green Memorial. £144 + VAT</td> <td data-bbox="1161 1037 1315 1149">£172.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="209 1149 357 1227">825</td> <td data-bbox="357 1149 1161 1227">Cllr Ashton Jones. Boulder and various resources for Little Green Hut (2 receipts)</td> <td data-bbox="1161 1149 1315 1227">£70.68</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="209 1227 357 1294">827</td> <td data-bbox="357 1227 1161 1294">Various expenditure related to Memorial Plaque and Burial Ground hedge. Reimbursed to Cllr Dukes</td> <td data-bbox="1161 1227 1315 1294">£221.23</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Resolved: Payments approved Resolved: To purchase a £50 gift voucher for Mr Fred Davies in appreciation for his work at Mordiford Green.</p>	Cheque	Expenditure	Amount	821	H W Morgan & Sons. Invoice 332015 dated 02/10/14. Wooden surround and scalplings for Mordiford Green Memorial. £144 + VAT	£172.80	825	Cllr Ashton Jones. Boulder and various resources for Little Green Hut (2 receipts)	£70.68	827	Various expenditure related to Memorial Plaque and Burial Ground hedge. Reimbursed to Cllr Dukes	£221.23	<p>JL</p> <p>Clerk</p>
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485	<p>Burial Ground and Closed Churchyard</p> <p>a) Working Party Update The tree had now been felled and all the rubbish removed. The C of E faculty to allow the work to the memorial had still not been received.</p> <p>b) Update on the Boundary Hedge Cllr Dukes gave an update on progress, plants and other materials having been purchased.</p> <p>b) To Consider any Costs related to the Burial Ground and Closed Churchyard There were no costs</p>													
486	<p>To Consider Response to Pay Phone Consultation The proposals to remove certain payphones have been circulated to all Cllrs. Payphones at Priors Frome (used twice in the last 12 months) and at Checkley (not used in the last 12 months) were within the proposals. Resolved: To agree to the removal of these payphones</p>	Clerk												

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487	<p>Allotments WM Housing would suggest dates for the first planning meeting. Two members of the public had offered to join the planning group, together with Cllrs Dukes, Lloyd and the Parish Clerk.</p>	
488	<p>To Note the Information Sheet (November 2014) and any other Updates Resolved: Information Sheet (November 2014) was noted.</p>	
489	<p>To Raise Items for the next Scheduled Parish Council Meeting Review of Standing Orders and Financial Regulations How to Encourage New Parish Councillors</p>	
490	<p>To Agree change of meeting schedule for Group Parish Council Meetings Resolved: To change the GPC meetings to the third Monday in the month. Meetings scheduled for the school holidays, when the hall would not be available, would be held at Dormington Church (Feb) and Checkley Church (July)</p>	
491	<p>To Note Date and Time of the next Regular Meeting of the Group Parish Council Monday 19th January 2015 at 7.30pm in Mordiford School</p> <p>The meeting closed at 9.30 pm</p> <p>Signed Date 19th January 2015 Chairman of Dormington and Mordiford Group Parish Council</p>	