

DORMINGTON & MORDIFORD GROUP PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the Meeting of the Group Parish Council held on Monday 16th February 2015 at 7.30pm

Present

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

In attendance

Chris Bucknell - Clerk, 1 member of the public attended

The meeting was scheduled to be held in Dormington Church but due to circumstances outside of the control of the GPC the meeting was moved to Dormington Court. Arrangements were made to direct members of the public to the venue.

Item			Minutes	Actio
513	To Receive Ap	ologies fo	or Absence	
	Cllr N Brewin,	Cllr J Lee,	Cllr C Shearer, Cllr J Hardwick	
514	Declarations of	of Interest		
	a) There were	e no Decla	rations of Interest	
	b) No written	requests	for dispensations had been received	
515	•		e previous meeting held on 19 th January 2015	
			eeting held on 19 th January 2015 were agreed with one amendment to item	
	495b and sign	ed by the	Vice Chairman.	
516	To receive brid		·	
	a) Police Re	•		
	No police repr	esentative	e was present and there was no update	
	b) Neighbor	urhood W	atch Update	
			dent on the approach to Mordiford Bridge (from Hereford) where a 4x4 ran	
	into the rear o	of another	vehicle. There were no injuries.	
	c) Ward Me	ember		
	Cllr Hardwick	had given	apologies. There was no update.	
	d) WM Hous	ing		
	_	_	n shared ownership properties had been received	
	Applicant A	(2 bed)	Refused due to affordability	
	Applicant B	(3 bed)	Unable to proceed	
	Applicant C	(3 bed)	Orbit approval refused due to applicant still owning a property with ex	
	Applicant D	(3 bed)	Decided not to proceed – have issues with the development	
	Applicant E	(3 bed)	Now offered a property – applicant checking mortgage availability	
	Applicant F		No local connection	
	Applicant G		No local connection	

Action

Clerk

Clerk

Applicant H	(2 bed)	Had local connection, offered a property but decided not to proceed
Applicant I	(2 bed)	Lived in Mordiford for 7 years – offered a property and paid reservation or
		plot 9 – plot reserved
Applicant J	(2 bed)	Application being assessed

Minutes

Information had been placed in The Beneficial and in the Dormington Newsletter in order to encourage people to take up the properties.

There was no update on the allocation of rented properties.

WM Housing anticipate that the scheme will be competed and handed over from Harpers on 16th March.

517 | Public Participation Session

Item

There were no comments from members of the public.

518 To Consider Planning Matters

a) To Consider any Planning Applications

Reference	Application
P143272/F	Stable and yard north of Mews House, Mordiford. Additional information had been received.
P150321/FH	Hill View, Checkley. Proposed garage and workshop. In principle there were no objections to this application. It was agreed that ClIr Dickson would discuss the application with ClIr Lee with particular reference to the materials being used. Post meeting note: ClIr Dickson reported that the materials and the structure of the roof were in keeping with the house. On this basis the GPC had no objections.
P150290/F	Mordiford Church of England Primary School – proposed erection of canopy over existing paved play area. <i>The GPC was supportive of this application.</i>

b) To Note and Decisions/Notifications Received

Reference	Application	Decision
P143719/K	Mordiford Cemetery. Fell holly tree and replace with Hawthorn Hedge.	Approved
P143579/FH	Rowan House, Checkley. Proposed detached garage and storage building.	Withdrawn
P112834/N	The Court, Rectory Road, Hampton Bishop - anaerobic digester proposal.	Awaiting Decision
P143272/F	Stable and yard north of Mews House, Mordiford. Proposed earth shelter dwelling to replace an existing stable and storage building.	Awaiting Decision

519 Finance

a) To receive a Finance Report from the RFO

Bank balances:

Business Current Account £18,441.48 (Bank statement 13/02/15) Business Reserve account £4,305.21 (Bank Statement 19/11/14). It should be noted that the above funds include earmarked reserves and grant funding and should not be considered as available funds.

Item Minutes Action

b) To Agree Payments made since last meeting

Cheque	Expenditure	Amount
843	Balfour Beatty. Invoice IN 21913 dated 21/1/15. Grit Bin for Checkley	£328.96
043	£274.13 + VAT.	

Resolved: Payment Approved

c) To agree payment of outstanding invoices

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	Cheque	Expenditure	Amount
	844	Daniel Squire. Invoice 07001 dated 31/01/15. Dismantle holly tree in Burial Ground. £120 + VAT	£144.00
	845	D C Gardening. Invoice 300 dated 25/01/15. Trip out to trim ivy on church wall but work had already been done by persons unknown. Agreed to pay travel costs. £30 + VAT	£36.00
	846	Mordiford School. Invoice dated 06/02/15. Hire of school Hall Sept 14 – Jan 15. 4 sessions	£80.00
	847	Mordiford School. Re-issue of cheque 747 dated 21/01/14 which was uncashed. This cheque had been cancelled. Hire of school hall Feb 13 – Nov 13. 10 sessions	£200.00
	848	National Allotment Society Membership. (Agreed at Jan meeting) £55 + VAT + 10p voting share	£66.10
	849	Plants for Little Green Hut (Cllr Litchfield)	£24.00
	850	Skip Hire for Scutterdine Lime Kilns (as agreed at January GPC meeting) £185.00 + VAT (Cllr Lloyd)	£222.000

Resolved: Payments Approved

Update on NP Grant – Total Grant awarded = £6,960, £6,264 paid in advance. Total expended (less VAT) = £5,672.96. Final Report has been submitted and approved and a repayment of around £591.04 is expected.

d) To Consider Grant to Dormington PCC

This item was deferred until the March meeting.

e) Review of Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

Financial Regulations and Standing Orders (last reviewed April 2014) had been circulated to all Cllrs in advance of the meeting for comment.

The Standing Orders had been amended to include a section on the recording, filming and reporting of Parish Council meetings (Openness of Local Government Regulations 2014). Cllr Dukes queried Section 16 which stated: Due to the restricted number of Councillors, sub-committees will not be appropriate.

Resolved: To look back at why this section had been added and to review at the March meeting.

There was no change to the Financial Regulations. The Risk Assessment had been updated to include a section on electronic banking which mirrors the Financial Regulations.

Resolved: To approve the Financial Regulations and Risk Assessment

Highways, Footpaths and Commons

a) Mordiford Traffic/Pedestrian Safety Proposals

The list of proposals had been submitted to Herefordshire Council as agreed at the January meeting. No response had yet been received.

b) Highways and Footpath Issues

520

The Clerk reported planned works in Mordiford (outside Yew Tree Cottage and Rectory Cottage),

Clerk

Item	Minutes	Action
	which will result in three way traffic lights.	
	A complaint had been received from a member of the public regarding heavy lorries passing through Mordiford. This had been reported to Balfour Beatty who responded by saying that the restriction was a weight limit at the bridge of 16.5T 'except for access', which effectively legitimised anything over 16.5T using that route. This response had been passed on to Cllr Hardwick.	
	Cllr Litchfield responded to a comment made regarding whether bollards outside Wallflower Row would leave enough room for pushchairs; he felt installation of bollards would make no difference to the use of the pavement and may increase pedestrian safety.	
	c) Update on Lengthsman and P3 Scheme Balfour Beatty have now produced guidance notes for the Lengthsman and P3 Grant. An Annual Maintenance Plan will need to be completed which details the Activity, Level of Service/Frequency and the Estimated Budget. Balfour Beatty recognise that this can only be as accurate as the information held at the time and that things may change but the plan will need to be completed, together with a risk assessment, before 1 April 2015, if the grant is to be accessed. The Clerk reported that Michael Dyer had indicated that he is willing to carry on with general Lengthsman duties but did not want to take on pothole filling. The Clerk recommended that Richard Mills, who successfully carried out the work during the pilot and who is fully trained with a team of experienced men is considered if the GPC wished to consider pothole repair. It was also noted that if the GPC wished to include the filling of potholes in their Lengthsman plan there would need to be link Cllr(s) who would work with the Locality Steward to identify the work to be done before it is passed to the Lengthsman. This is to ensure that there is clear demarcation and agreement about which defects would be the responsibility of the Lengthsman and which would be carried out by Balfour Beatty. The Clerk asked the GPC to consider their position regarding the scope and requirements of new Lengthsman and P3 Scheme.	
	Footpaths - Cllr Litchfield noted that following concerns about footpath DR1 at Claston Farm he had walked the route and in his view there were no real issues other than the footpath needed waymarker posts to direct walkers along the legal line, which Cllr Litchfield suggested was done after the building work was complete.	
	A resident had reported a problem when walking between Jones Hill and Mangerdine, requesting that railway sleepers be put down along the route. Cllr Litchfield noted that this had previoulsy been discussed with the Forestry Commission but it was not felt to be a realistic option.	
	It was noted that £168.51 of Lengthsman Grant remained with one invoice for work at Larport Lane outstanding. £146 of P3 grant remained.	
	d) To report any defects to the Clerk	
	On the Priors Frome to Dormington Road (part way between the Electricity Sub-station and Larport Cross Roads) the sign, which was previously reported as missing is still there but leaning into the hedge and needs re-seating.	Clerk
	On the Woolhope Road, above Pentaloe Close on the right, the reflective pegs marking the edge of the sheer drop have been knocked over.	Clerk
	e) To Report any Jobs for the Lengthsman No further jobs were reported.	
521	Neighbourhood Planning This item was deferred to the March meeting. Allotments	

Item	Minutes	Action
	a) Update from Allotment Working Party WM Housing had agreed to install the water dip tank, which will have its own meter and lockable tap.	
522	There are 4 plots between 126 and 140 sqm, 5 between 210 and 266 sqm and 2 between 160 and 170sqm. The remaining 2 plots which you've asked us to grass over are 70 sqm and 154 sqm. Total 13. There is a need to match these sizes to the plan and the Clerk was asked to contact Nick Edge. Currently the GPC had asked for 11 of the plots to be set up with the 2 by the orchard set to grass until they were required. This would be reviewed at a later date once the total number of applicants were known. To date expressions of interest had been received from 8 residents; 5 from Mordiford, 2 from Dormington and 1 from Bartestree.	Clerk
	There was a need to agree a formal application form for those interested in the allotments. There was also a need to agree the type of fruit trees to be planted in the Orchard.	
	b) To Consider Allotment Tenancy Agreement The NALC Tenancy Agreement Template and a draft set of Allotment Rules (from Lark Lane Allotment Association) had been circulated to all Cllrs in advance of the meeting. The Clerk pointed out that there were some discrepancies with the Allotment Rules, particularly regarding keeping of livestock. Resolved: To use the Allotment Rules provided by the National Allotment Society in order to ensure compliance and consistency. These would be circulated once the membership application had been approved.	
	c) To Consider Site Facilities WM Housing could not fund the provision of toilets. Various options had been considered and a small group were to visit Leominster allotments to investigate the organic toilets installed there. A portaloo could be provided by Green Sludge for £18 per week, fully serviced. It was felt that the cost of facilities should be included in the allotment rental and not borne by the GPC.	
522	Mordiford Green a) Update from Working Party There was no further update. b) To Consider any costs related to Mordiford Green There were no costs	
523	Burial Ground and Closed Churchyard a) Update from the Working Party There was 10 yards of hedge still to be planted. The leaking standpipe had not been attended to. It was suggested that if the water was purely for the benefit of the Burial Ground the GPC should consider funding the repair. Cllr Dickson agreed to discuss it with the Landlord of the Moon Inn.	
	b) To Consider any Costs related to the Burial Ground and Closed Churchyard There were no costs	RD
524	Scutterdine Lime Kilns All the rubbish had been cleared out of both Kilns and the ivy and stumps had been poisoned in order for them not to grow back. The pond had been cleared out and had exposed an industrial archeological site. It was noted that the farmer was pleased with the project. The AONB had been approached and will carry out a site visit in March with a view to being able to access the £1,00 grant funding discussed when the project was first started.	
	It was proposed that a small gift could be given as a thank you for use of the digger. This would be discussed at the March meeting To Consider Memorial for Local Resident Cllr Lloyd had continued to explore the options with the family, who had indicated their preference	

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525	would be for a small bench with a plaque to be sited either on the green adjacent to the "Spout" or failing that, the burial ground. Cllr Brewin had been in contact with Rev Chris Moore regarding a joint approach. Cllr Dukes felt the Churchyard would be a better site but this would require a Faculty from the PCC. It was noted that there had been a private contribution to the benches in Mordfiord Green and it was felt the family may like to make a similar contribution, maybe funding the plaque. Resolved: Cllr Lloyd to approach the family with regard to a financial contribution. Resolved: Cllr Brewin to continue discussions with Rev Moore regarding a joint approach.	
526 527	Tolkien's Shire Link with Mordiford There had been no response to the article in The Dragon. Cllr Dukes had been in touch with the Hereford Times and Visit Herefordshire and was going to put another, longer piece on the website. Election Processes and Procedures The Clerk outlined the timescale for the election and the process for those wishing to stand. No reponse had been recevied from HALC regarding their pre-election offering. Nomination packs were available at the meeting. It was agreed to place a notice on the noticeboards saying that those wishing to stand should contact the Elections Team. This would also be announced at the Nieghbourhood Planning Steering Group Meeting.	DL NB
528	Local Council Award Scheme Foundation level of the Local Council Award Scheme had been awarded due to the exisiting Quality Parish Status. The critieria to apply for Quality and Quality Gold Status was now available and would be considered. It was felt unrealistic to make the application before the election but work could be done on gathering some of the evidence. To Note the Information Sheet (February 2015) and any other Updates Resolved: The Information Sheet was noted.	
529	To Raise Items for the next Scheduled Parish Council Meeting Venue for GPC Meetings.	
530	To Note Date and Time of the next Regular Meeting of the Group Parish Council Monday 16 th March 2015 at 7.30pm in Mordiford School Hall.	
531	The meeting closed at 9.30 pm	
	Signed	

Item	Minutes	Action