

MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

HOPE MANSELL VILLAGE HALL

9TH JANUARY 2024

MINUTES

Council Governance

1. IN ATTENDANCE : Jon Billings , Tim Hardie, Ellen West , Diana Tobin, Sheila Heath
Apologies for absence - Geoff Phelps
2. Declarations of interest and written requests for dispensations – None
3. Open Forum – Lori Weber – Lori introduced herself to the council.
4. Minutes of meeting held on: 14 November 2023 Approved
5. Correspondence received – none received.
6. Casual Vacancy and update from Personnel Sub-Committee
As no election had been requested during the statutory notice period, it was unanimously agreed to co-opt Lori Weber onto the council and thereafter, she joined the meeting.
Personnel Sub-Committee to be reconvened.

Finance

- a. Review of Council finances (attachment). Clerk advised on the financial balances and noted there is provision in the budget for defibrillator replacement. This prompted a general discussion about the various defibrillators in the parish and Council agreed to get an update on their respective age and maintenance status. Clerk to find out about the Dancing Green defibrillator. Cllr Weber to discuss the Hopes Ash Farm Defibrillator with Hopes Ash.
- b. Precept – report from Subcommittee. Clerk to create a form for circulation to councillors for forward planning future expenditure.
- c. HALC / CILCA – clerk to register with CILCA- £75.00 – all approved.
- d. Lengthsman agreement – all agreed to apply for grant scheme for 24/25.
Work plan to be discussed prior to next meeting. Clerk to liaise with Cllr Hardie.
- e) Planters by Gates. Clerk to investigate whether BLE can add planters in the village by the gates.

Roads, footpaths, rights of way

7. Report from Footpath officer. Tim Hardie reported his work on getting fully acquainted with the role was ongoing and he planned to contact the Public Right of Way team at Herefordshire County Council to get clarification on a number of points.
8. Lengthsman work-plan – to be formulated.
Long term flood water in the road near to Parkfields had been reported to Balfour Beatty.
9. The poor condition of the grit bin on Eunice Saunders Way was raised - this has since been reported to Balfour Beatty (Ref. 11148592).

Local amenities

10. Litter picking – Thanks to Meri Mayhew, Geoff Phelps, Harriet New, Keely Walton and Nigel Carter and family.

It was agreed to explore providing safety guidance to litter pickers – Ellen West to circulate examples.

Contribution to Bailey Lane End Chapel (in keeping with previous contribution to St Mary's Church, Hope Mansell) to be discussed at next meeting.

Planning

11. Review of planning policy. (attachment for discussion) – deferred to next meeting.

233675 – Pound House – No concerns raised. No comment.

Climate emergency and environment

12. Spring meeting – 6th April set as provisional date – Jon Billings to email respondents to the on-line survey who provided contact details.
13. Former County Councillor Yolande Watson to be invited to next meeting to talk about the Dark Skies project she ran in Walford.

Policing and crime prevention

14. To confirm policing priorities - confirmed as crime prevention, anti-social behaviour and road safety – All agreed.
15. Street Watch – the scheme was brought to the Council's attention by the local Community Police Liaison Officer. After discussion it was agreed that this was less applicable in our parish and not a priority at this time.
16. To raise any issues – discussion about after-dark use of the View Point lay-by. Has been raised with the police and assurances received that it will be added to their patrol plan.

Communication

17. Forward plan – Weston News Update; email to climate change survey respondents.

Next meeting

18. a. To raise matters for next meeting.
 - a. Amended planning policy
 - b. GDPR Policy review
 - c. Spring meeting

b. To note dates of next meeting

BLE 12th March

Hope Mansell 14th May

BLE July 9th

Hope Mansell 10th September

BLE 12th November