

Defford and Besford Parish Council

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 21st May 2019 at Defford Village Hall

Present: Councillors : Davis, Spiers, Cheetham, Clarke, Wicksteed & Downer

In Attendance: Clerk & 10 members of the public

This meeting was retimed to start at 19.10 due to unavailability of the Village Hall, parishioners were informed.

1. Election of chair. Cllr Cheetham was proposed and seconded, acceptance of office was signed
2. Election of vice chair. Cllr Clarke was proposed and seconded
3. Apologies, County Cllr Hardman.
4. Declaration of interest
 - a) Register of Interests: Councillors are reminded of the need to update their register of interests. All forms were completed and handed to the clerk to forward to Wychavon
 - b) To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature. None received
 - c) To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature. None received
 - d) Written requests for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) are to be with the clerk at least four clear days prior to a meeting. Councillors who have declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, or an Other Disclosable Interest which falls within the terms of paragraph 12(4) (b) of the code of conduct, must leave the room for the relevant items. None received

The meeting will be adjourned for Public Question Time – Deferred to the Annual Parish Meeting at 8pm The time allocated is at the discretion of the Council/Chairman. Residents are invited to give their views and question the Parish Council on issues on this agenda, or raise issues for future consideration at the discretion of the Chairman. Members of the public may not take part in the Parish Council meeting itself.

5. Minutes of the previous meeting 19th March 2019 were signed as true and accurate by Cllr Davis
6. Councillors were nominated to the following committees (the Chair or appointed representative to report back at each meeting of the Parish Council)
 - a) The Planning Committee – all Cllrs except Cllr Davis (chaired by Cllr Clarke)
 - b) The Finance and General Purposes Committee – Chair Cllr Downer, all Cllrs
 - c) Defford Relief in Need – Hazel Wakefield, Margaret Mallett & Tracey Gresham to report back to the Parish Council
 - d) Village Hall Management Committee – Cllr Spiers
 - e) Bredon Conservation Group – Cllr Spiers
7. Bank Signatories / Bank Mandate – Cllr Cheetham agreed to be the 3rd signatory on the bank accounts.
8. The following dates and venues of future meetings for the Parish Council were approved

16 th July – Defford	17 th September – Besford	19 th November – Defford
---------------------------------	--------------------------------------	-------------------------------------

9. It was agreed to revise the policies below over the next few months, this to be actioned by the Chairman
 - a) Standing Orders
 - b) Financial Regulations
 - c) Asset Register
 - d) Risk Assessment
 - e) Review of delegation arrangements
 - f) Review of the terms of reference for committees
 - g) Review of the council's complaints procedure
 - h) Review of the council's procedures for handling requests made under the Freedom of Information Act - update
 - i) Review of the council's policy for dealing with the press/media
10. Parish Clerk's Report, nothing new to report

11. Progress Reports

(a) County Councillor Hardman - none

(b) District Councillor Ron Davis

Wychavon Conservative Party have retained control. Cllr B Thomas has been re-instated as leader, there are now 8 members on the exec board.

Ward profile of Eckington has been produced which shows

- Longevity in this ward is 85.4 male / 82.8 female.
- Population 2673 (65+ 31%) (16-64 55%) (Under 16 15%)
- Average house price £410,839.00
- Children in poverty 17%
- Households in fuel poverty 11%
- Crime down from 169 to 147 in 2018
- Childhood obesity
 - Reception year obese 9.4%
 - Year 6 obese 12.5%
 - Reception year overweight 23.3%
 - Year 6 overweight 29.4%
- Cllr Ron Davis email address Ron.davis@wychavon.net

(c) West Mercia Local Policing Team, none

12. Aims and Objectives

<u>Aim/ Objective</u>	<u>Responsible</u>
1) Lengthsman – any issues to be passed to Clerk	ME
2) Resurfacing of village car park - Drains outstanding	IS
3) Upkeep of Millennium Green (MG) /Play Area, Cllr Downer to take over Comments on Facebook about the goal nets. Agreed to discuss in the Parish Meeting Final routine inspection of the Millennium Green completed 19 th May 2019. The site is in good condition. Grounds maintenance is in good order and the play equipment is in safe condition. <u>Within the last year:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Parish Council has adopted a policy for the management of the Millennium Green, • The rubbish bin has been replaced, • A new sign has been installed. <p>Issues of access by the contractors from the adjoining building site have stopped since the houses have been completed. New surfacing has been laid down on the approach to the gate.</p> <p><u>There are a few specific issues which are still ongoing:</u></p> <p>The benches are in urgent need of maintenance and repair. They are fixed to the ground and can't be easily moved. Professional help is suggested.</p> <p>The goalpost issue is still ongoing. As noted in the minutes of several meetings, the posts are positioned asymmetrically and badly situated in front of a spiky hedge. Numerous alternatives, both of fencing and replacing the goalposts have been explored. The cost has been determined as prohibitive. Netting introduces safety and vandalism issues.</p> <p>Grounds maintenance provision should be monitored as in the past - growth of grass and shrubbery is seasonally dependant.</p> <p>The annual professional inspection of the play equipment is due in July. There was a plan to join onto the RoSPA scheme, which inspects in Worcestershire in March. As far as I know, this wasn't done. It will be</p>	BD

necessary to arrange an inspection for July and review the RoSPA scheme, booking in plenty of time for March 2020 and thereon subsequent years, if required. Nicola Szabranski 19/05/2019 The Parish Council thanked Mrs Szabranski for her efforts over the past period.	
4) Campaign to reduce dog fouling in the village, at present things are tidy. Request for more dog bins to be installed in the village has been received. Cllr Downer agreed to continue the effort to clean up Defford	BD
5) Parish Council Website, down a few weeks ago. Plans going forward – I suggestion was made to have search button on the website to make easier navigation. The Chair said he wanted to look at how to communicate better with the community	JC /GC
6) New Homes Bonus Approval to support the Village Hall to replace the current flooring total cost is £7110.00 The Village Hall Committee are looking at a grant from the New Homes Bonus of £5000.00. Councillors voted on whether to decide on the Village Hall application on the night. 4 voted against, 2 voted in favour. Therefore it was agreed that councillors would discuss further and report back to the committee in 4 weeks time.	All
7) Telephone Box 7.1 Defford, quotations received from Western Power. Approached a few organisations for funding 7.2 Besford, contract signed, work can commence to renovate	GC JC
8) Street lighting, clerk to set up meeting with Prysman between GC, BD & JC	BD, JC & GC
9) Highways, Byways, Flooding Chair to send letter to Churcham Homes	ALL
10) Footpath Warden – Cllr Wicksteed agreed to take on this role	CW
11) Electric Car charging points – notes from JC	JC
13) Repair to Church wall, no quotation received, defer to July	BD/GC

13. Planning
New Applications

<u>19/00815/SCR</u>	Land North Of Strensham Bourne Road Defford	Screening Opinion for solar farm and associated development	Decision – Information
---------------------	---	---	------------------------

Approved applications

<u>19/00607/HP</u>	San Remo Bourne Road Defford WR8 9BS	Construction of conservatory	Approved
<u>19/00698/FUL</u>	Buildings At Woodmancote Defford	External alterations to building, including new and replacement windows and doors, replacement cladding and replacement roof covering to facilitate change of use approved under 18/02541/GPDP	Approved

14. Finance

- a) Bank balances
Current account as at 21st March 2019 - £15,427.18
- b) Accounts for the financial year 2018/19 – were approved and signed off by Cllr Davis
- c) Annual Return for the financial year 2018/19 was approved and signed off by Cllr Davis
- d) Payments below were approved

Ref	Payee	Description	Net	VAT	Total	Cheque no
1	CALC	Membership	£ 449.38	£ 80.61	£ 529.99	1126
2	Eon	Lighting	£ 123.92	£ -	£ 123.92	1127
3	Defford Village Hall	Meeting costs	£ 16.00	£ -	£ 16.00	1128
4	Pendas	Website	£ 55.00	£ 11.00	£ 66.00	1129
5	LA Garden Service	Mowing	£ 435.00	£ -	£ 435.00	1130
6	M English	Wages	£ 635.09		£ 635.09	1131
7	Zurich	Insurance	£ 413.26		£ 413.26	1132
8	New Farm Ground	Lengthsman	£ 325.00	£ 65.00	£ 390.00	1133
9	PATA	Payroll	£ 12.75		£ 12.75	1134
	TOTALS		£ 2,465.40	£ 156.61	£ 2,622.01	

15. Council's Insurance Policy for the period 1 June 2019 until 31 May 2020 – was approved

16. Correspondence for Information

To note the appendix of items which have been circulated or will be available for inspection.

- Police and Crime Commissioner Survey – Cllr Clarke agreed to complete
- Email from Linda Mills – It was noted that this road was not in the Parish. Clerk to respond advising

17. With no further business to conduct the meeting closed at 8pm, the next meeting will be 16th July 2019 at 7.45pm in Defford

Signed:

Councillor Gary Cheetham, Chairman

Date: