

Shobdon Parish Council Meeting April 2019

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 29th April 2019 at 7.45pm in the village hall

Note: A meeting was held prior to the start of the Parish Council meeting to update residents of Bateman Close on the status of the road, which has not yet been adopted by Herefordshire Council and therefore remains the responsibility of Taylor Wimpey. Residents were advised to contact Taylor Wimpey to ask that Gigaclear be given wayleave to access the road for the purposes of providing cable for broadband and that the process of handing over the road to the county council be completed as soon as possible.

Attendance: Mr W Stokes, Mr R Bowen, Mrs A Walker, Mrs A Boxhall, Mr C Jaques, Mr S Macdonald, Cllr Roger Phillips, Parish Clerk Ms E Lewis

3 members of the public were present.

Public Time: Plans for the fields behind the Old School house were raised, as Pearl Lake have now bought these fields. No information has been made public, but any change of use will require planning permission. It was confirmed that planning permission has been applied for to put an access on to the road from the front field. A few problems with fly tipping were raised and these will be reported to BBLP.

1. **Apologies for absence:** No apologies were received.
2. **Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 25th March 2019 and the extraordinary meeting held on the 11th April 2019:** Both sets of minutes were **agreed** and signed as a correct record.
3. **Declarations of interest and written requests for dispensation:** Chris Jaques declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 11.2 and signed the book accordingly.
4. **Report by Ward Councillor Roger Phillips:** Cllr Phillips will contact Bill Wiggin to ask that he write to Taylor Wimpey to ask that they resolve any issues so that Bateman Close can be transferred to Herefordshire Council.
5. **Report by West Mercia representative:** No report had been received.
6. **Finance**
 - 6.1 **Financial statement to date:** The financial statement was **agreed**. The current account has a balance of £29,540.62 and the High Interest account has a balance of £74,714.30.
 - 6.2 **Cheques:** Cheques were signed as follows - MJ Evans Fencing £1600.80, Hudson Stonework £876.00, MCBS £174.15, Village Hall £36.00, Hi Trees £4020.00, Clerk wages £605.43, HMRC £32.26.
 - 6.3 **Appointment of external auditor for 2018/19 accounts:** It was **agreed** to ask Gill Vaughan to undertake the internal audit of the accounts.
 - 6.4 **Date for finance working group for end of year accounts:** It was **agreed** to arrange this at the May Parish Council meeting.
7. **Planning:**
 - 7.1 **Registration of Land at Methodist Chapel:** It was **agreed** that the Parish Council had no objection to the church formally registering the small parcel of land adjoining the chapel.
 - 7.2 **Update on any other planning issues:** There were no issues to report.
8. **Information, Consultation and Response**
 - 8.1 **Shobdon Food and Flying festival Grant of occasional Premises Licence:** It was **agreed** that the Parish Council had no objection to the application.

9. War Memorial

9.1 New names to be added to the war memorial: The working group has completed their research and produced a shortlist of new names that could be added to the war memorial. It was **agreed** that these would be reviewed, the research and names made available to the parish at the Parish Annual Meeting on the 13th May and then the final decision taken on which names to add to the war memorial at the Parish Council meeting on the 20th May.

9.2 Update on progress with repair and relocation: Planning permission for the relocation of the war memorial has been granted and Hudson Stonework are working on the repair. It was suggested that the work be scheduled as follows: install foundations, install new base stone, pave the area and then install the repaired war memorial. The foundations will be installed by volunteers and Pearl Lake have offered to undertake the paving of the area. Information on possible paving stones was circulated and once Hudson Stonework have received the new base stone, councillors will take samples of paving stones to agree the best match with the base stone. Once the paving is in place, a new chain and link fence will be installed around this. It was **agreed** that a rededication ceremony will be held on the weekend of the 20/21st July and the Clerk will contact Lady Darnley's office to investigate whether she would be available for the ceremony. It was **noted** that BBLP will be undertaking the installation of the repaired milestone.

10. Playground

10.1 Appointment of contractor for path works at playground and in village car park: Following the meeting on the 11th April, Hi Trees had been asked to quote for the groundwork element of the works to the paths in the village car park only. As the Parish Council had made all efforts to obtain three quotes for the work, it was **agreed** to suspend the financial regulations and award the contract for the work to Hi Trees. GM Joyce have been asked to requote for the tarmacking element of the work only, and other companies are also being approached for quotes.

10.2 Signs for new playground and associated budget: Two information signs and one sponsors board are required for the new playground (90 x 60cm each). It was **agreed** to authorise the Clerk to purchase these with a budget of up to £200.

10.3 Update on work and next steps: The playground equipment installation has commenced and should be completed by the weekend of the 4th May. Hi Trees will then undertake work on the paths and landscaping starting the week of the 7th May. It was **agreed** that the playground will remain closed until all the work is completed and it is safe to open to the public, which will hopefully be the weekend of 25th May. It was **agreed** to plan a formal opening afternoon/ceremony to be held later in June. As the work on the paths in the village car park may be done at a later date, it was **agreed** to put a temporary gate on the back of the playground at the exit into Bar Meadow until the new path from Bar Meadow into the village car park can be completed.

11. Updates and action

11.1 Lengthsman and PROW – to include confirmation of 2019-20 plan: The plan for 19-20, which had been circulated prior to the meeting, was **agreed** and will be forwarded to BBLP.

11.2 Footpath Bridge – update on land transfer: The transfer of the land for the footbridge has been held up due to the sale of the Bateman Arms. The Chairman has spoken to the new owners of the pub, who have indicated their support for the project and suggested that further discussions are held once they are in situ. They have also suggested that the Parish Council look to apply for planning permission for the footbridge before the land is transferred. It was agreed to proceed with applying for planning permission on this basis, once further discussions have been held with the new owners of the pub.

11.3 Cycle Path: The purchase of the Grove field is due to complete at the start of May.

12. Items for the next agenda: No items were raised.

13. Date of next meetings: **Monday 13th May**, Parish Annual Meeting, 7pm
Monday 20th May, Annual Meeting of the Parish Council. 7.45pm